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The Long Island FISHERMAN

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JULY 1st, 1976, ISSUE No. 24

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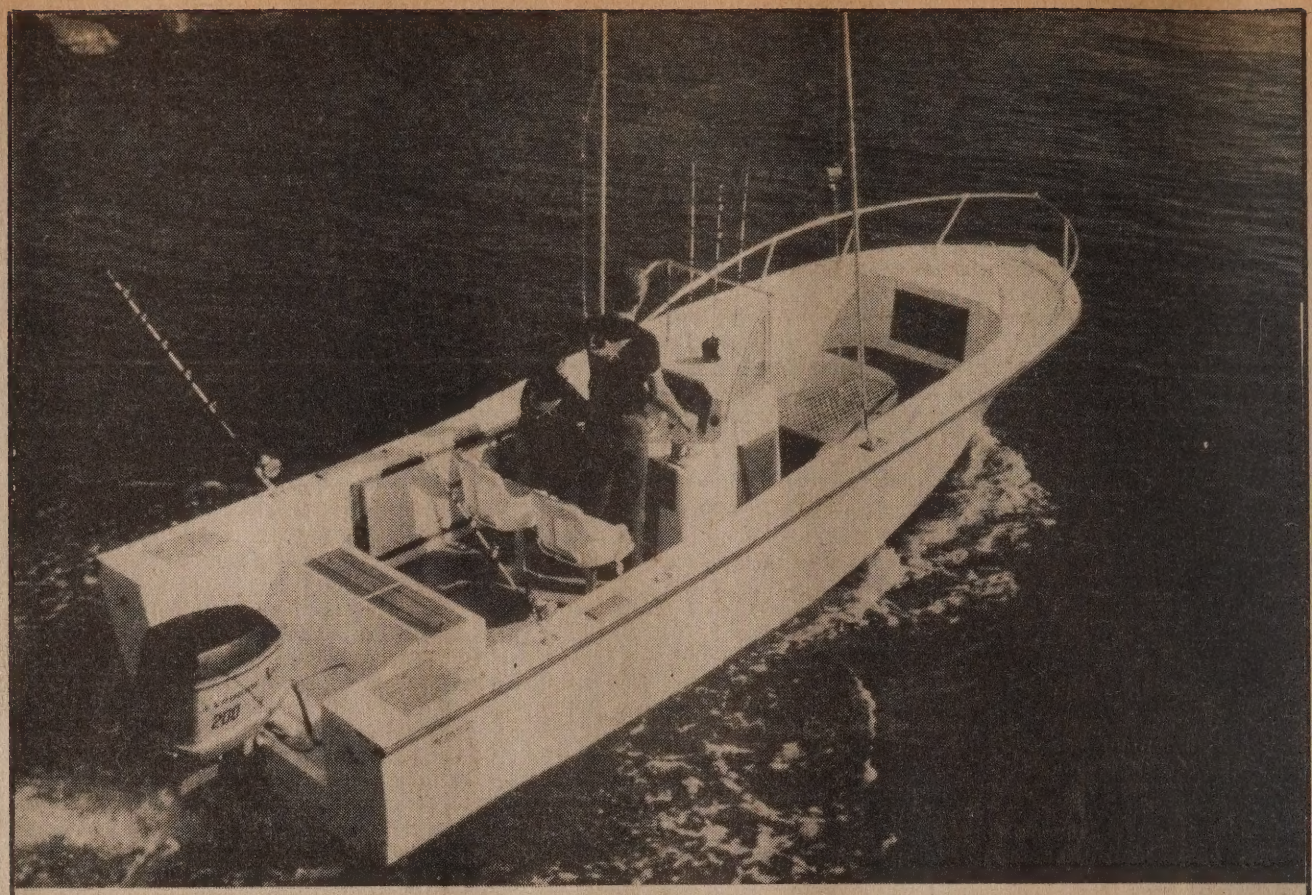

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOLUME 11, No. 24 JULY 1st, 1976

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About the Cover—

Drew Muller holds this big tide runner (weakfish) he caught on a white Tri-Fin Whiptail in Peconic Bay earlier this month. Photo by his father, Dr. Wm. A. Muller.

Richard Reina PUBLISHER

Scott Simons MANAGING EDITOR

Dr. William A. Muller ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Al Ristori CONSERVATION EDITOR

Stu Miller ADVERTISING MANAGER

Mike Zarrella DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

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CLUB NEWS

BTC TUNA & MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The Babylon Tuna Club will again hold its Invitational Tuna and Marlin Tournament on July 24th and 25th at the Babylon Village Dock located at the foot of Fire Island Avenue, Babylon. The 1976 tournament will have a Bicentennial theme with festivities planned for all entries. This premier fishing event on Long Island's South Shore draws boats from all over Long Island and out of state entries as well.

The Babylon Tuna Club, as always, emphasizes conservation of our valuable Tuna stocks and only Tuna of 14 pounds or more will be eligible for the many prizes. The scientists at Wood's Hole Oceanographic Institute will assist us with research tags and tagging equipment. All tuna under 14 pounds will be tagged and released. Part of the proceeds of the tournament will be donated to the Wood's Hole Tuna Research Program. All fish brought to the dock will be sold to the public with the proceeds being donated to the Association for Help of Retarded Children. For more info and applications please contact: Mr. Thomas Claps, 23 Homestead Drive, Wheatley Heights, N.Y. 11798. (516) 643-7758.

CHOPPER ROUND UP TOURNAMENT

The 5th Annual Bluefish Tournament, Chopper Round up, will be held on Saturday July 17th (rain date, Sunday July 18th). We invite individual and club entries, both male and female.

Prizes and trophies will be awarded as was introduced last year. Heaviest bluefish—Male—Prize and trophy for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Heaviest bluefish—Female—Prize and trophy. Heaviest bluefish—Female—Trophy for 2nd and 3rd place. Captains Trophy and Prize to skipper of boat with the 10 heaviest bluefish (total weight.) Club trophies for combined weight of the 10 heaviest bluefish from each boat entered as a team. Emblesm and patches to all participants and special awards—Captains meeting—early entry drawing and other prizes.

All fish weighed in are to be selected by the respective boat crews. Entry fee is $10 per boat plus $6 per angler. Club team entry is $20 per team, plus $6 per angler.

Teams cannot exceed four boats. Clubs may enter more than one team; however they must fish as separate predesignated teams. Entry forms and tournament rules are easy to obtain by calling the Tournament Chairman at (516) 234-5567. They will also be available at the Captains meeting. (Remember, there will be a special award for early registrations.

NO. BROOKHAVEN SPORT FISHERMEN'S MEETING

Another fine lecturer will appear at the July 12th meeting of the North Brookhaven Sport Fishermen's Club, Inc. The 9:00 P.M. meeting will be held in the Mt. Sinai Community House, which is located on North Country Road in Mt. Sinai. As usual, all sport fishermen are invited to hear our guest speak, and have a cup of coffee with us.

This month the N.B.S.F.C. is honored to have as its guest, Nick Karas. Nick, now in Africa shooting a photo safari for Argosy, is a staff member of that publication, and an article by him appears in each issue. In addition to picture taking in Africa, Nick is fishing for the famous African Black Bass. He July issue of Argosy carries the story of Nick's wife, who caught a 100 pound tarpon while fishing in a small boston whaler!

In addition to writing for Argosy, Nick is a free-lance writer submitting sport fishing articles for Field and Stream, Outdoor Life and Sports Afield.

Nick Karas also writes in the Sunday Leisure Guide of Newsday, the New Sports Section that has met with so much attention on our Island.

When he is not writing for publications he finds time to write his own books, and his book "The Complete Book of Striped Bass" can be found on bookshelves of Island fishermen who want to read up on fishing. In the fall of this year, "Americas Favorite Salt Water Fishing", a book on eight different species of fish will appear in stores. Another in a series of fishing books by Nick. As an added attraction to this meeting, Nick will personally autograph his books brought to the meeting by Island fishermen who own them.

You have read all about Nick Karas...and now you have the chance to meet him. Why not join the members of the North Brookhaven Sport Fishermen's Club on July 12th. Admission is free and ladies are welcome, all the time. Nick's subject, Striped Bass.

For more information on the North Brookhaven Sport Fishermen's Club. Founded in 1969 and Chartered by the State in 1970, as a Non profit club association, call in the Lake Ronkonkoma area at 588-6080 or in Rocky Point area at 744-6260.

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MARLIN
#1
#2
#3

MAKO
#1—Ed Fitzpatrick, 290 lbs., Shotgun Two
#2—Larry Christie, 282 lbs., Holbrook, N.Y.
#3—Walter Estes, 244 lbs., Bayshore

BASS
#1—Dick Mele, 54 lb. 8 oz., Empire St. Club
#2—George Bondi, 31 lbs. 2 oz., Flushing
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Sinker Bouncing The Best Way

with Matt Ahern

The other day I spent several enjoyable hours at Shinnecock Canal, doing my best to convince a few reluctant flounder to think more highly of my bait. I was fishing about an hour when a car pulled up nearby. The driver didn't bother to get out, but I noticed he appeared to be watching my every more. Eventually I lost interest and concentrated on my fishing.

Twenty minutes or so went by. I had just dropped a flounder in the bucket when my interested spectator got out of his car and approached me. He introduced himself as Bill Samuels of Holbrook and then asked if I minded answering a few questions. No, I said, not a bit.

It seems he had lately taken an interest in fishing, but wasn't doing too well at his new-found sport. He seldom caught fish, he said, even when nearby fishermen were doing pretty good. What was he doing wrong?

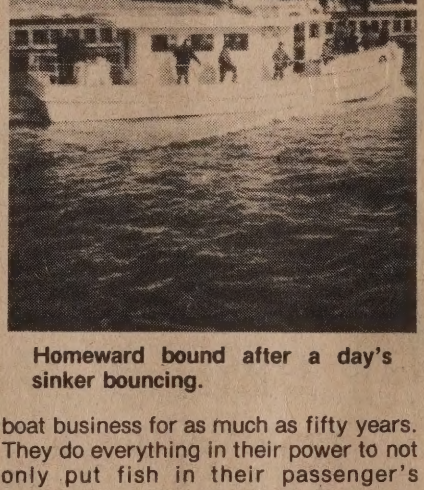
Well, that's a pretty tough question to answer off hand, and I told him so. Then he asked me a question I could answer without difficulty. "Tell me," he said, "what's the best way to learn the bottom fishing game as quickly as possible?"

"Party boats," I told him. "Go fishing on party boats. That's the best way. If you can't learn the important basics aboard a party boat, you'd better take up another sport."

Perhaps my reply was a little abrupt, and if so, I didn't mean to be, but I firmly believe that's good advice for any beginner—even if it is my own observation.

I'm convinced that party boats have turned more novices into well-rounded fishermen in the shortest length of time than any other method of angling known. There are few days when fish aren't caught aboad a party boat. In fact, in half a century of party boat fishing, I've never seen one.

These rugged boats are manned by professionals, professionals who are masters at the fishing game. It is perhaps well to realize that some of these skippers have been in the party boat business for as much as fifty years. They do everything in their power to not only put fish in their passenger's buckets, but they also do their best to see that these fishermen enjoy themselves while doing so.



Homeward bound after a day's sinker bouncing.

Those party boat skippers I know, and I've fished with many over the years, have an unselfish interest in their passenger's welfare; especially does this apply to the beginner. And you won't find a bit of hypocrisy or guile on their part.

The backbone of the party boat business is the "regular", those fishermen who continually frequent one boat to the exclusion of all others. The party boat skipper would like nothing better than to see you become one. It's good for his business, of course. But this isn't the only reason he wants you to catch fish. He's genuinely interested in your ability to catch fish. That's his best advertisement.

And were you to tell one of these skippers that your initial trip aboard his boat is nothing more than a one-shot deal, it would make no difference. He would still do everything in his power to help you enjoy yourself. This is the way these hard-working professionals are. A grander, more unselfish group of fishermen you will seldom meet.

The advantages of party boat fishing are many. As we all know, it's impossible to guarantee fish, but party boats come close to doing so. It is aboard these craft where the beginner quickly learns the art of bottom fishing. Not on the first trip, to be sure, but it doesn't take too long before fish begin dropping into the bucket with regularity.

A veteran fisherman will always help out the beginner, so don't be backward about admitting you can use all the help possible. These are magic words. You'll soon have master fishermen flocking around, unselfishly sharing their bits of knowledge with you, knowledge which may have taken years to accumulate. They'll go out of their way to show you how to rig. They'll explain about bait and how to use it. I could go on and on, but you know what I mean. And believe it or not, it won't take many trips before you'll be sharing your knowledge with someone else in need.

Long Island, New Jersey, and Connecticut fishermen are indeed fortunate to have a multitude of party boats available to them. It's a big business, this business of sticking a hook into some unwary fish's mouth. And every year thousands of happy-go-lucky anglers step aboard these vessels and do just that.

Some anglers do all their fishing from party boats, angling for each specie of fish as it becomes available—from flounder to cod. Some enjoy the camaraderie to be found aboard these boats to such an extent that they fish from the same vessel week after week, year in and year out. To these dedicated fishermen, there is no boat like "their boat". I recall with fondess one old-timer who spent thirty-five years with us. Many life-long friendships have evolved this way, and I can tell you many heart-warming stories on this subject alone. The party boat addict is quite a guy.

I often meet fishermen who have never fished aboard party boats, and I find these fellows readily admit they have toyed with the idea many times. Most hesitate to do so because they're not sure which is the best boat among the many available.

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Well, to these fishermen, and those who may feel the same way, let me say this: In the true sense of the word, I don't believe there is such a thing as "the best boat." What may be a fine party boat for me, one with a hard-working skipper, let's say may not necessarily be the one for you. And vice-versa.

I believe it depends on the fisherman. The kind of fishing he enjoys surely enters into it, and probably so—does his temperment. What may annoy some fisherman aboard a party boat is often taken in stride by others. The best method is to try out the one that appeals at the moment. Hopefully, it won't be necessary to search further.

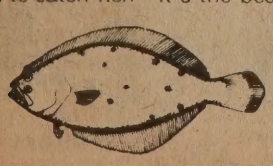
There are several ways to select a party boat. One is to check out the one of interest at the dock, preferably the afternoon before the fishing will be done. If the fishing is good and the weather holds up, a repeat of the day's fishing can be expected. Another way is to call the skipper the evening before your planned trip and ask how the fishing has been. You won't be conned, have no fear.

Also, you can check the ads in The Fisherman for the boats engaging in the kind of fishing of interest to you. Then check your daily newspaper's fishing column for the latest information on how the fishing is going. If the fishing holds up, go; if not, be advised to wait until the following week, or your next available opportunity.

Arrive at dockside early. Don't be like the fisherman who shows up fifteen minutes before sailing time only to find his boat has long departed. If the fishing is good, it attracts many fishermen, and many boats have a capacity crowd before their listed sailing time—and when they do, they leave. There's no point in waiting around. Also, late-arriving fishermen seldom get what many consider the choice spot on the boat: the stern. Get on board as early as possible and you will have no trouble.

Should you have doubts about whether party boat fishing is for you, it isn't necessary to invest in needed tackle. Suitable tackle can be rented on board for a nominal fee. But I'm sure it will only be a matter of time before you'll be haunting your favorite tackle shop. I've seen this happen so many times, I can almost guarantee it.

Anyway, if you're like Bill Samuels from Holbrook and having trouble getting your share of fish, go party boat fishing at your first opportunity. Not only is there no easier or more enjoyable way to learn to catch fish—it's the best way!



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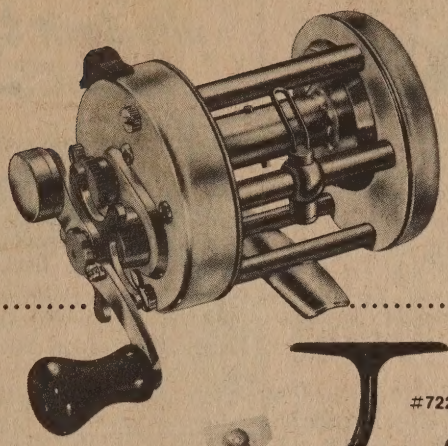

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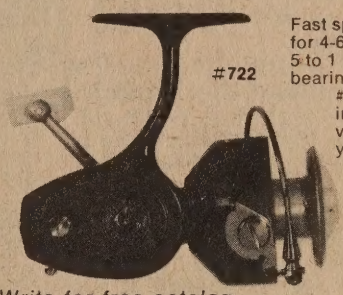

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THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

The Science of Fluke Fishing Part IV

Now that we have fully covered how to rig up for fluke and how to prepare and rig the various types of bait, we get to the most critical aspect of fluke fishing—locating where the fluke are so that you can catch them. Because no matter how great a fisherman you are, no matter how you have mastered the various fishing techniques involved, you can't catch fish if you aren't fishing in an area where the fish are.

As with all predators, fluke will be found in areas where there is a sufficient food supply to keep their bellies full. What are these areas? Well, it would be easy enough to just list for them for you, but I feel that it is important that you understand exactly WHY the fluke will tend to congregate in certain areas. This is the "secret" formula to successful fluking—learn and understand it and you will be well on your way to being a good fluker.

Formation + Current = Turbulence
Turbulence + Baitfish = Easy Prey
Easy prey = Fluke

The first ingredient of the formula is a bottom formation or structure which is simply any rapid change in depth on the ocean floor. Then find that portion of the formation where the moving current creates a turbulence as the water is forced to change its direction in order to go over or around the obstruction. When small baitfish that are swimming down current come into contact with this turbulence they are tossed and turned quickly tiring them out and rendering them helpless. So the baitfish become easy prey, which is the reason that the fluke will congregate around the bottom formations that fill all the requirements of the formula. Let's look at a few of the different types of bottom formations and see how this formula works in practice. A small diagram that shows how the formation would be depicted on a nautical chart appears with each, and I have included a few straight line recordings made on the Sitex Straight Line Recorder aboard The Fisherman's Grady White center console.

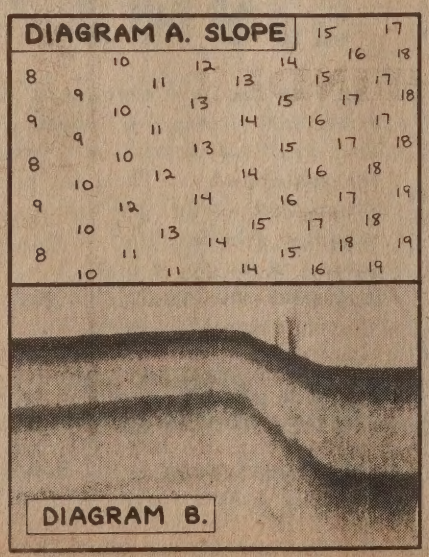
SLOPES: (Diagram A) A slope is simply a gradual incline of the bottom as the depth changes. They are productive in both bay and ocean, but for different reasons. Fishing is usually very good in the bay on a slope coming down from the flats, but only when it is on the down-current side. The fluke will lie along the length of the slope facing the shallow water, feeding on the baitfish that are being swept off the flats by the moving water. In the ocean, baitfish will often follow a slope line as they move to a new location, so the fluke will ambush them as they are in transit. Slopes are a good fluking spot in the ocean because the various currents usually won't drastically change their productivity and you can catch fish through both tides. Diagram B is a Sitex recording of a small slope at Montauk, and you can see a school of baitfish that was following it. Slopes can be easily found with either a graph recorder or simple depth flasher.

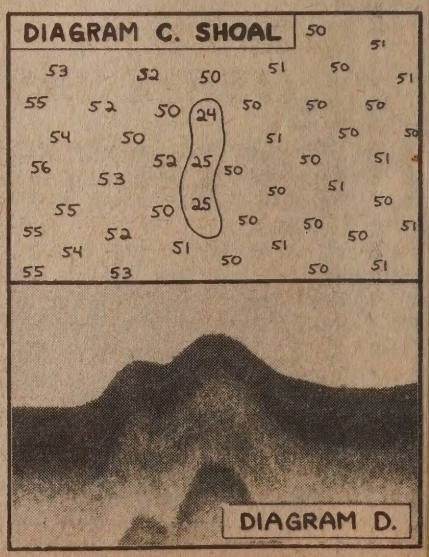
SHOALS: (Diagram C.) A shoal is a large formation that rapidly rises from the bottom like a wall. The shoal shown in Diagram C is very similar to one of the many found at Montauk in the Midway Buoy area, where a sand shoal 25 feet high is surrounded by water 50 feet deep. Let's suppose that the current is moving from right to left. Now you have this moving vertical column of water 50 feet high that suddenly runs into a shoal 25 feet in height. What happens is the bottom 25 feet of the column of water is forced up the right side of the shoal, creating a tremendous turbulence. Any baitfish swimming with the current that meets this turbulence is quickly rendered helpless as they are tossed and turned. So the fluke will just lie on this up-current side of the shoal and gorge themselves. When the current changes direction, the fluke just move to the opposite side of the shoal which then becomes the up-current side.

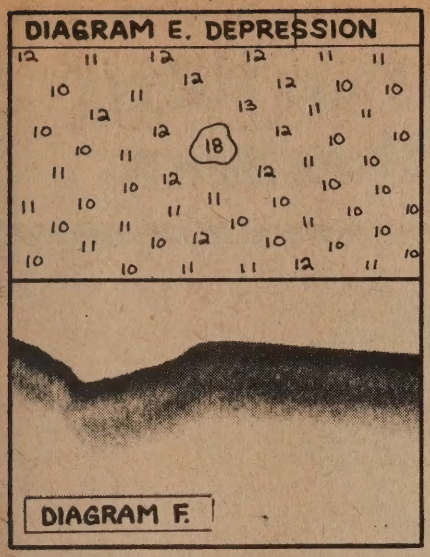
Shoals may be located by the angler with a depth recorder, either graph or flasher type. If the wind and seas are relatively calm they also may be located visually by looking for the "rip" of white water on the surface above the shoal that is the after-effects of the water passing over the top of it. At Montauk there is as many as 7 of these shoals in one long drift...if there is such a place as a hell for baitfish this has got to be it. The Sitex recording in Diagram D is a shoal in Peconic Bay, one of the most underfished areas for fluke on the Island.

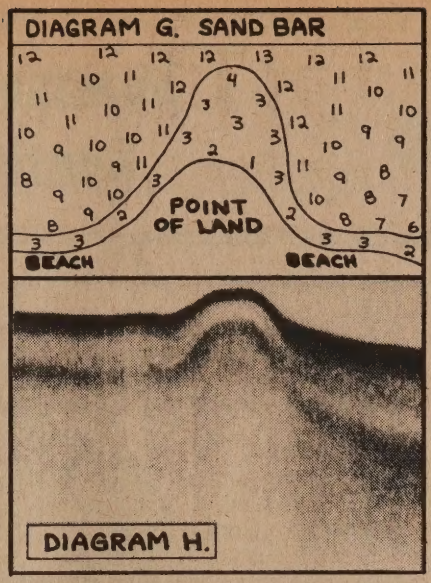
DEPRESSION: (Diagram E.) A depression is simply a shallow hole in the bottom that fluke like to lie in to rest while they decide whose bait they are going to steal next. They will usually only hold a few fluke, so don't waste too much time waiting for the action to pick up after you've taken a few fish out of a depression—that's probably all the fish that it held, so if you take a couple of fish and the action dies cruise around with your recorder and find another hole to fish. Diagram F is a Sitex recording made out at Montauk on the North Side.

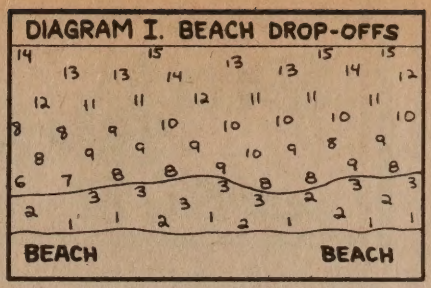
SAND BARS: A sand bar that builds up around a point of land is an excellet formation to catch fluke around because of the turbulence created by the current moving parallel with the shoreline. Let's suppose that the current is moving from

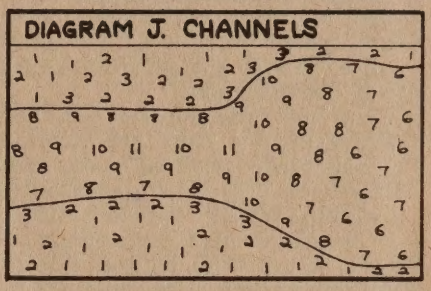












left to right in Diagram C, which is similar to the sand bar that is around Shagwong Point at Montauk. As the water passes over the top of the bar that turbulence is created. The fluke will be lined up along the down-current (or right) side of the sand bar, feeding on the baitfish as they are swept off the top. The easiest method of locating sand bars is visually, by either looking for choppy water around a point of land or looking for a distinct change of the shade of the water from light to dark. On the Sitex recording shown in Diagram H the fluke would be lying on the right side of the sand bar if the current were moving from left to right as described.

BEACH DROP-OFFS: (Diagram 1.) The area where the depth of the water suddenly increases from that where the waves are gently breaking along a sandy beach are excellent for taking large quantities of fluke, but they are usually on the small side. The shallow sand shelfs next to the beach are a safe haven for schools of sand eels and spearing.... providing that they don't venture too near the drop-off where predators such as the fluke will lie in wait for the carelsss baitfish. The fluke will line up along this change-of depth-line, making an occasional foray into the shallow water. Beach drop-offs are one of the most effective areas for taking fluke on artificials, which we will go into depth in part seven of this series.

Beach drop-offs are easy to locate visually without the aid of a depth recorder. A distinct, sudden darkening of the shade of the water will usually mark the point where the depth drops from the shallow shelf. Make it a point to plan your drifts and concentrate your fishing around this shadow line.

CHANNELS: (Diagram J.) A channel is a relatively deep, narrow trough or drain that the moving water of the ebbing and flooding tide moves through as the bay is flushed. Most anglers make the mistake of drifting right down the middle of a channel...they'll catch fluke all right, but they will be few and far between. There are three prime areas to fish for fluke in a channel. The fluke will congregate thickest wherever there is a sharp bend because of the stronger currents found there as the moving water is forced to alter its direction. They will also tend to bunch up at the point where a channel suddenly narrows, which has a funneling effect on both the moving water and the baitfish. The fluke will also hug the line between shallow and deep water along the edges of the channel because the baitfish will often travel along it so they can quickly escape from predators into the shallow water of the flats. Your best bet is to try making your drift along the

Continued on page 54.

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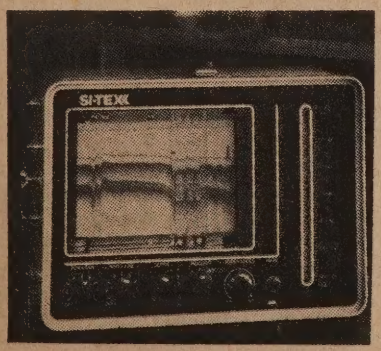

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Surf Side with Doc Muller

Summer Fluke Fishing South Shore Scene

Fluke were available this year to south shore surf fishermen as early as late April but for many of us the lure of weaks and bass was enough to keep us away from the fluke.

But with the summer doldrums depressing the bass and weakfish success many otherwise purist beach fishermen will think seriously of putting a few fluke fillets on the dinner table.

I have caught fluke on everything from tins to Alou Eels but the best fluking is available to the guy who wants to tote around a supply of bait. The questions which remain are where, when, and how of it all.

Where: Two different types of areas come to mind because they help the angler to get his bait to slopes of the main channels where the fish are.

The fishing piers, in the back-bay, such as those at Jones Beach and Captree, bring the angler to within working distance of the State Channel.

The second type of area that can produce exceptional catches of fluke are the inlets. The sandy bottom of the inlets is ideal for the stalking fluke and the strong currents produce avid uneven mountain bottom structure. The resulting bars produce turbulence which renders spearing, sandeels and killies helpless victims of the fluke. All of the south shore inlets brag of excellent fluke fishing at times.

Although the inlets and piers are favorite spots of many anglers other areas produce significant catches as well. For example, the north side of the Captree draw bridge gets a heavy play from weakfishermen as well as fluke fans. However, when the word gets out that the fish are in you're likely to have plenty of competition from other anglers.

I have seen fluke taken from the sand flats behind The Store in the channel behind Cedar Beach and around the Wantagh Bridges. Many times I have stepped on fluke when walking along the sand and mud border of the State Channel. Thus, the fish can be caught almost anywhere, but the key to success is finding places where the bottom produces tidal eddies and allows the fluke to camouflage themselves.

When To Fish: Fluke are basically daytime feeders. That is, they prefer to feed in the daytime when boat traffic, water conditions and availability of food permit. If any or all of these factors are negative during daylight, the fish will be motivated by hunger to feed at night. Fluke lack the hunting equipment of other gamefish. Their eyes do not have the light gathering capacity of the eyes of a bass, blue or weakfish for night hunting and although the flatfish can swim quickly over short distances, they cannot effectively chase down baitfish.

The author holds a surf caught fluke that fell for a tube lure and killie and squid strip.

Therefore, I would suggest that you turn your fluke fishing trips into relaxing daytime sorties. But keep in mind that limited laboratory research indicates that the fluke put on a frantic feeding burst at dawn and then settle down to casual feeding for the rest of the day.

How to Improve Your Score: Weed is a common and recurring problem in south shore waters. How, as well as, where you fish is often decided by wind and weed conditions.

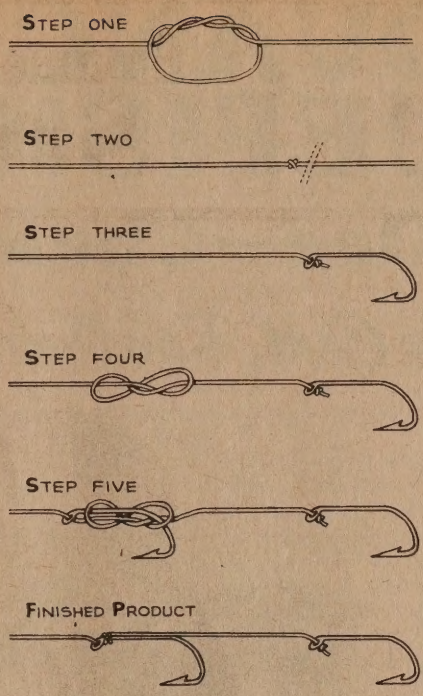
When the fish are eager strikers, I prefer to use tins, bucktails, small tube lures, etc. But most of the time, especially during July and August the flatfish will respond better to bait. It seems that in every area the regulars have their own favorite bait. But for ease of casting and overall effectiveness you can't beat a killie and squid strip. Sandeels fall apart too easily and spearing is also perishable. Squid strips

without a baitfish is not as effective as the combo.

I thing it is important to use a two-hook tandem rig even though many regulars scoff at its importance. Boat fishermen have proven time and time again that it is easier to hook short striking fluke with a tandem rig. The accompanying diagram shows how to make your own rig and they can also be purchased at reasonable cost ready made. Our resident fluke "maven" Scott Simons suggests a 3/0 fluke hook be snelled to the leader and a 5/0 gold beaked hook be used as a trailer, but the rig works well if both hooks are either 3/0 or 5/0. Use a 3-4 foot length of leader and tie this to a dropper loop just above the sinker. Many fluke fishermen like to use a 3-way swivel, where the leader, line and sinker join, but in the south shore bays and inlets where weed abounds, the hardware is not recommended.

Cast out into the channel and retrieve slowly so that the bait moves evenly but deliberately along. When weight is felt drop the rod tip to allow time for the fluke to move the bait back in its mouth. After about 10 seconds lift the tip slowly until tension is felt. If the fish tugs back, strike with 2 or 3 quick sharp lifts of the rod tip.

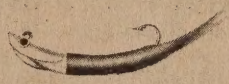
The process is essentially the same in the inlet areas, however, stronger currents present additional problems. The limitations of spinning tackle prevent the use of many heavy sinkers. Therefore, even with 4 ounces of lead there are places where you will not be able to hold bottom. The bait will move in an arch having two motions: one motion parallel to the beach and the other towards the beach. It may be difficult to present the bait to the fluke correctly unless you deliberately let the current work for you.



With conventional tackle the fishermen can use heavier terminal gear, but the easy fighting fluke will not be able to offer an interesting struggle against equipment which over powers them.

Thus, many fishermen prefer to use light rods and are limited to but a few ounces of lead. They use the current to move the bait and do not retrieve until the terminal rig has been carried down current and swept toward the beach.

It is also possible to still-fish with bait, but because fluke prefer moving prey the quality of the catch will suffer. I have noticed time and time again when present at one of the back-bay fishing piers that only a mere handful of fishermen catch fluke steadily. These anglers pay strict attention to details such as the freshness of the bait, sharp hooks, tandem rig, and a slow moving retrieve.



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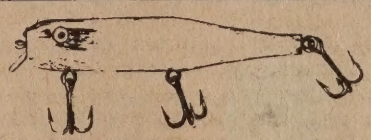

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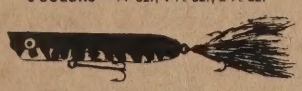

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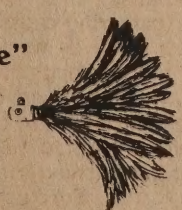
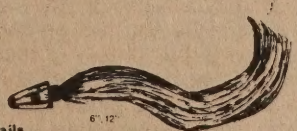
2 oz.	8/0
3 oz.	8/0





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ADVANCED BLUEFISHING

Part One—Chumming

by Capt. Ron Onorato

A fisherman once asked me, "What would Long Island be without bluefish?" I replied, "Loaded with a lot more sinker bouncers!" The bluefish is one of Long Island's most sought after gamefish. It's great fighting ability, it's plentiful quantities, the size to which it grows and the ease at which it can be caught are just some of the reasons that make this one of Long Island's favorites. The bluefish can be taken by; chumming with bunker chum, trolled, diamond jigged, squidding, casting and using whole live and dead baits. Each of these areas are somewhat specialized and in order to apply them with the most success, you should be familiar with them.

In this first part we shall deal with chumming with ground mossbunker chum.

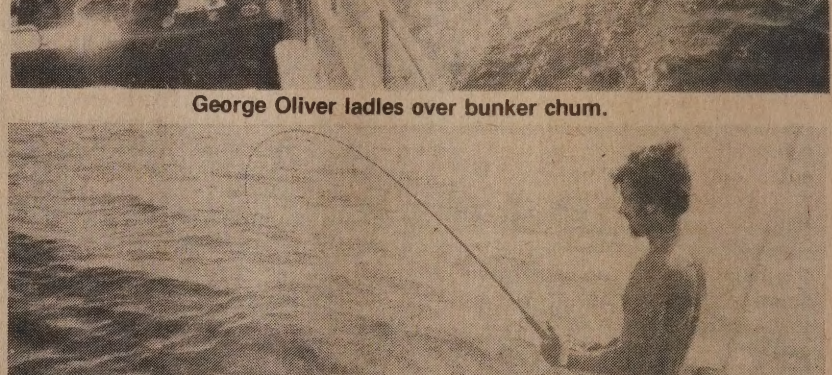
My first encounter with blues was on a party boat that was chumming for them. I was new to the game of chumming and it took me quite awhile to get the hang of it. Some fellows on the boat were really setting fire to the fish, while all I managed to do was soak the smelt bait for much of the day. As time went on I picked up the method, and it was short order before the technique became almost routine.

The bluefish is an extremely voracious fish that relies on its nose to seek out its food. It can pick up the scent of bait in the water for quite some distance. For this reason, many skippers found that ground up mossbunker (menhaden) made an oily, smelly chum that the bluefish found very appealing. However, there is much more to chumming than merely ladling over the ground fish.

Ground mossbunker is available at most bait dealers when the blues are in season. It is sold in 5 gallon tins for around 5 or 6 bucks. An all day bluefish trip may call for 3 or 4 cans, while a single can be used for a couple of hours fishing. In most cases, the chum is sold in the solid state, frozen. It takes a good 10 hours before the chum is soft enough to be ladled over the side. It's a good idea to check with the bait dealer ahead of time to make sure that he has some soft chum.

Bluefish range over a wide area of ocean and are sometimes hard to pin down. The best way to get an idea of their location is to keep with the columns and check along the waterfront for their latest whereabouts.

George Oliver ladles over bunker chum.



Author works on bluefish with very light conventional outfit.

Once on the bluefish grounds, chumming operations get underway. If it is a fairly calm day, drifting is the preferred method of fishing. At times however, strong wind conditions may call for anchoring and chumming. Drifting covers a wider area, while at anchor, only a small piece of ocean is covered.

The whole idea behind chumming is to concentrate widely scattered fish near the boat and hold them there where they will then hit the baited hooks. When you first arrive, you should give a good shot of chum. I will usually ladle several ladleful of chum right from the can to ge the slick started.

Once the slick is started, it is time t water the thick chum down a bit. A pai of seawater added to the chum can wil produce a mixture that is the consistenc of pea soup. This soup is then ladle over the side at an interval of every fe seconds. A good rule of thumb is to ladl over some more chum when the firs chum disappears from sight. An even & unbroken chum slick is then created. I will take a little while to get the righ frequency, but after a few tries, i becomes easy. By chumming this way the average can of chum will last fo about 2 hours.

Now we come down to the fishing part Once in the slick, the blues will be eatin

bits of pieces of chum as it is drifting along the slick. In order to make the baited hook look natural, you have to drift it out with the chum. For this reason conventional tackle gets the nod over spinning gear. It is much easier to control the line and hook ith a conventional reel.

My own preference for chumming is a light action 7 foot baitcasting outfit with 15 pound test line. This outfit will handle any blues that come along. If you're new at the game, stay with a medium boat rod and 20 or 25 pound line. As you progress, you can scale it down accordingly.

The bluefish is equipped with one of the more formidable sets of teeth found in fish. The razor sharp dentures make short work of any mono leader that is used. For this reason, a trace of wire leader must be used ahead of the hook. As far as hooks go, if the blues are less than 10 pounds, 6/0 Eagle Claws are a good bet. You can use 8/0 for the bigger blues.

You can buy these hooks with the premade wire leaders, or you can make your own. Take a six inch piece of 60 lb. wire leader, (not plastic coated wire) and by means of the haywire twist, attach a 50 lb. black barrel swivel to one end. The hook is then attached to the other end. All told there should be about 4 inches of wire when you're through. If possible, try to get the wire bronzed, as silver wire sometimes glares in the water on a sunny day.

The difference between success and failure comes with the proper presentation of the bait. As earlier mentioned, the blues will be feeding on pieces of chum as they float down the slick. Your main concern then is to present the bait as though it was just another piece of food in the slick. The only way to do this is to keep playing out line and allowing the bait to drift in the slick.

In order to get an idea of how fast to let out the line, just watch your bait as it drifts with the chum. Keep the reel in free spool and strip off a couple of feet. As soon as you feel tension, strip off a couple of more feet. If you keep too much tension on the line, the bait will float out of the chum slick and head towards the surface.

Keep letting out line until you get a hit, or until a hundred feet or so of line is out, and then repeat the process again. Just remember to keep the bait moving. You will surely know when you get a hit. One moment you'll be slowly peeling line off the reel, and the next moment something is trying to pull the reel out of your hands. The thing here is to wait a second or so so that the fish can swallow the bait. Too often fishermen try to set the hook the minute they feel the runoff. All they succeed in doing is to pull the bait away from the fish. The reel will be in free spool, so just wait a second and then put the reel into gear. It is now that you feel the brute strength of the blue. Another mistake that is commonly made is that too tight a drag setting is applied to the line when you go to set the hook. The fish is swimming one way at great speed, and you're trying to pull him the other way. Something has to give, and it usually is the line. I have seen 30 pound mono pop on many occasions while chumming. The best drag setting is about 50 percent of the breaking point of the line during the setting of the hook. Either tightening or loosening it after that, during the fight. Line should be able to come off the spool without too much trouble in an even fashion. Drag setting, not strength of line, is the key to subduing big blues.

I haven't spent too much time with baits, because they are so numerous. Blues will eat; butterfish, smelts, bunker backs, mackerel chunks, squid and virtually any other chunk bait. Smelts and butterfish are usually placed whole on the hook if they are small. Insert the hook through the eye and out again through the shoulder. If they are big, then you can cut them in half. Chunk baits are better employed with smaller baits, so that you can bury the hook more easily.

Here are a few hints that may make the difference between an average and spectacular day. There are days when the blues are eating up the ocean, and there are times when you can't get arrested. On bright sunny days or when the water visibility is very good, go to a smaller hook and go to the lightest possible wire you can find. Blues have good eyes too, and the heavy stuff might scare them. If you can find them, try to add some spearing or some other chunk bait to the chum slick. Blues love tiny spearing and the other goodies added to the chum may excite them more. If the action gets heavy, keep one man at the chum can at all times. Once a slick is broken, the blues have a tendency to range around and may scatter. On windy days or when you're anchored and chumming, add a tiny shot or clinch sinker a couple of feet in front of the hook to get the bait deeper. Be prepared for tuna or albacore in the chum slick. You can tell when you get short runoffs, and the bait comes back without teeth marks. Switch to leaderless hooks if this happens. You can make your own ladle by simply taking a tuna fish can and nailing it to an old stick.

One thing you must do if you plan on eating chummed blues is to get them on ice immediately. If you let them get soft, forget it. If there is a lull in the action, it would be best if you gut the fish. When gaffing any blues, try to avoid the stomach areas and aim for the head, this will keep the internal organs intact. Broiled, fresh caught blues, especially the smaller variety are very tasty.

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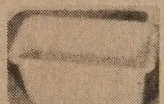

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NATURAL BAITS—
The Saltwater Minnow

by Frank Berrafato

Any Long Island angler who has fished for fluke is probably familiar with the salt water minnow. Two varieties are common to local waters—the banded killifish and the sheepshead minnow, although most anglers do not distinguish between the two types. The species inhabit the same creeks and shorelines, and are sold together in baitshops. They are a valued natural bait if used and presented properly.

This writer will concentrate on how to catch and use the salt water minnows, and how to rig and store them. But like the other creatures which inhabit the marshlands and mudflats (for example—clams and fiddler crabs) the killifish and minnows will be better understood if the angler knows a bit of their lifestyle and habits, and their relationship to the general environment and fishlife.

We are dealing with a miniature fish—usually no bigger than 2 inches, with the males of the species of much smaller size—an inch to an inch and a quarter. They are dark, drab olive in color, although at breeding time, the males take on bright colors.

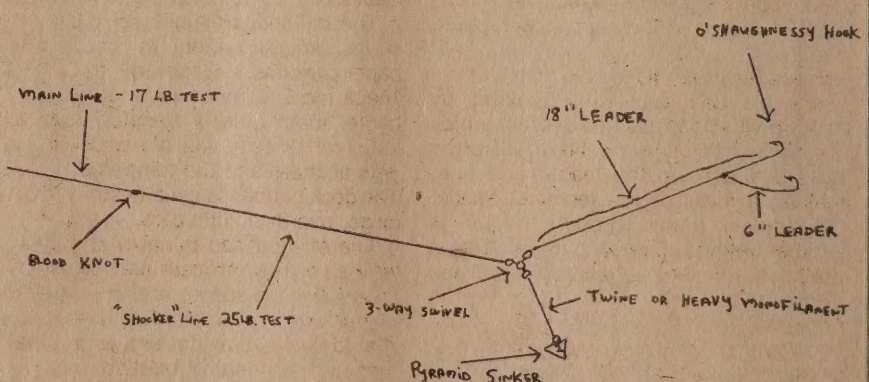
The banded killifish and sheepshead minnow are egglaying species, and anglers will notice yellowish eggs if they squeeze the females when putting them on the hook. Their main food is mosquito larvae, and this diet helps to control the mosquito population in certain pools and marshes. The slower moving larvae are easy prey for the quick and agile killifish.

Killies respond to the various seasons. In the winter they bury themselves in the mud—in pools and creeks that do not dry up, avoiding the exposure to ice. But as spring approaches, the sun's rays warm up the mud, especially at the low tidal stage, where a few degrees difference in temperature gives a false sense of spring to the killifish.

In summer, the creeks and inland waters warm up. The green, lush grass and weeds overflow the banks. This is spawning time for the killifish and the males of the species begin to change colors—becoming a bright steel blue, and the sheepshead minnow, in addition has orange to yellow fins to match. When frightened, the males will quickly lose these colors.

With the normal midsummer high waters, the marsh becomes a calm place. The larger fish drift slowly up the larger creeks looking for food. Small baitfish school and go up the creeks, trying to avoid the hunters, constantly on the move. The young energetic offspring of the bluefish—the snappers, actively chase and feed upon these small baitfish.

KILLIFISH TRAP SET IN SALT MARSHES



SURFCASTER'S FLUKE RIG — USED WITH KILLIFISH OR MINNOWS

The fluke is an active hunter, and his fondness for moving, live prey makes the killifish a prime target. Nature has supplied them with special technques for capturing killies and minnows. During daylight hours they will bury themselves in the sand or mud, with only their eyes

exposed—just waiting for unexpected prey to pass by. Their huge mouth and powerful jaws make quick work of the baitfish. At night, the fluke becomes more aggressive and will enter shallow water in search of killies—sometimes chasing them right to the surface of the water.

The prospective angler can usually capture enough minnows for a day's fishing. There are two methods. By hand seine (a net worked by two people), which is the quicker method and by trapping them in a killie trap. (See illustration.) When capturing killies in a trap, this writer has found that a slice of white bread will lure many baitfish—probably because the white stands out and it is easy for them to spot. Other baits for the trap include crushed mussels or clams, or a crushed crab—the extracted juices being the attractor.

Netting baitfish is usually quite easy. Killies travel in schools, the smaller ones closer to the shoreline, while the larger ones generally stay in deeper water. They frighten easily and any shadows or movements (vibrations) in the water will send them running.

Since it is advantageous to the angler using killies to keep his bait alive, even on the hook, it is important that the killies be placed on the hook properly. There are several ways, each with its advantages and disadvantages. Hooking the killie through the lips, is perhaps the best way of keeping them alive on the hook, and it is effective, particularly when fishing from a boat.

But this method will present problems for the baitcaster, for the bait will easily tear off during the cast. Hooking the killies through the back is an alternative method for the baitcaster, since the back is the toughest part of the bait and it has a better chance of staying on when being cast.

However the boatfishermen who keeps his bait constantly moving by drifting will find that the baitfish which are hooked through the back will often twist and kink up the leader and line, making a mess of the terminal tackle. Hooking the killies through the tail is another method of keeping them alive on the hook, but they appear awkward and unnatural, even to a fluke, when presented in this manner.

Usually I use two very small killies or one large killie on a hook. Many anglers will use a strip of squid with the killie, which provides a better background, making the bait more visible to the fish. Sometimes you can even feel the vibrations of a live killie on a hook, especially when fishing from a boat in shallow water.

Besides the fluke and snapper, other fish frequenting Long Island waters to feed on the salt water minnows include the common eel, who will invade any muddy tidal flat or low water creek in search of a quick meal, and the tiny pin sea bass which inhabit the inland channels and bays during the summer months. The blueclaw crab also dines on killifish.

Types of hooks are also important to consider when fishing with killifish. When boatfishing I use 3 foot leaders with O'Shaughnessy pattern hooks—large gap, forged hooks. There are also many pre-made rigs available, some with shiny spoons attached above the hook. (Fluke Spinners.)

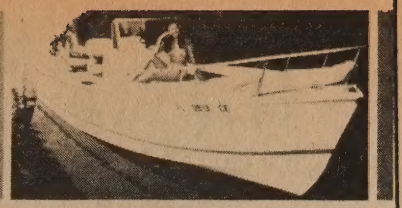
When baitcasting, I cut the 3 foot leader down to 18 inches, and add another hook on to the leader, about 6 inches above the first hook with a very short leader. (See illustration.)

Killies must be fished so that they look alive and active. In order to prevent them from just sitting on the bottom, turn the reel handle a few times every minute, very slowly, making the baitfish crawl along the bottom. Fluke will pounce upon the moving bait in a flash. When in a boat, it is best to drift, keeping the killies moving at all times.

Proper storage of killies is important. Wooden killie cars are usually used, some with screen bottoms to allow water to flow through, and others are constructed so that wooden slots permit water to enter freely. There is a new type of killie car that has appeared on the market in recent years—large polyethylene containers with holes to allow the water to pass through. They are complete with plastic carrying handles and spring type door. The trick is to keep the killies alive for a long period of time. If there is no circulation, there is stagnant water, and the baitfish will die. Dead killies have little value as a bait, at least as far as fluke fishing is concerned.

The baitshops usually refrigerate the killies, keeping them in small, heavy paper containers. Generally, this method keeps most of them alive, although the angler must quickly transfer them to a killie car or they will die when the sun gets at them and the temperature rises. The dock baitshops usually store them in large, oversize killie cars.

The sheepshead minnow and banded killifish are an intricate part of the Long Island fishing scene, and the complete angler who ventures to fish these waters should know how to use and present these valued natural baitfish.



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DOWN DEEP

by Pete Barrett

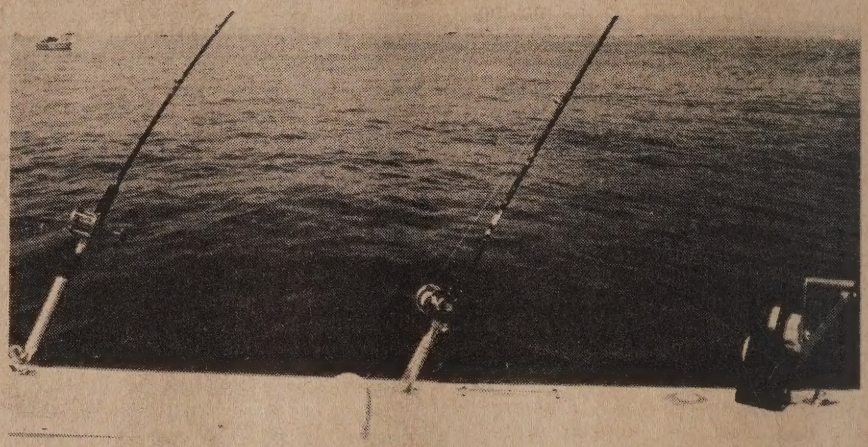
There usually isn't any in-between with wire line. Either you are a believer and use it constantly or you hate it with a passion and refuse to consider fishing with it. One point can't be argued regardless of your personal preference. For a number of decades there hasn't been a more effective method for getting lures down to the level of bass and blues when they are holding in deeper water. That is until the perfection of downriggers.

To the uninitiated first viewing a downrigger at a tackle dealer the whole rig may look a bit confusing, when in actual fishing use however, downriggers are quite simple to work with. Downriggers allow the fisherman to more accurately determine the actual depth of his baits or lures, and also allow the use of relatively light tackle. A point which wire line haters will surely like.

There's no doubt about it, downriggers afford more sport as tackle is balanced to each fishing situation. A typical example occured just last week fishing with Bob Roberts and Tom Gowen, both representatives of DuPonts Stren Line Company. After bucktailing bass at New Jersey's Monmouth Beach early in the morning, we headed south to the Klondike where bluefish in the 3 to 6 pound range were schooling up. The first few fish were taken on wire, but we soon switched over to lighter plugging tackle and used the downriggers to reach an appropriate depth.

There was a world of difference as Bingle Lancers and Rebels were eaten by the hungry blues. The light lines and limber rods provide plenty of sport as the tough little blues bulldogged down deep and occasionally came tailwalking to the top.

That's one instance of downriggers being used for more sport but there are also times when they are a better fish catcher than any other method. Weaks will lie in massive schools just off the bottom in the summer months and although diamond jigging will take many fish, downriggers will take more. Many times you will find bass or blues at the half way mark along a shelf or sharp drop off. Wire trolled above the shelf will bring a few strikes—maybe. But umbrellas, tubes or swimming plugs worked down along the drop off will produce more hits. It stands to reason that a lure worked at the same depth as the fish instead of 10 or more feet over their heads will be more productive.



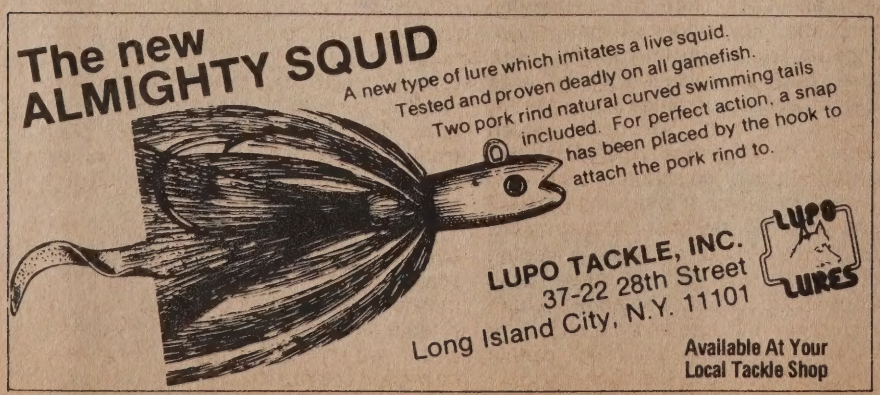
Forward rod is held by outrigger bracket and is used for wire. Second rod holds monofilament clipped to a downrigger. This set-up allows boats of all sizes to troll 4 sets of line.

Downriggers can also be used to get live baits such as bunker, herring or eels down as far as you can go—right into the fish's dining room so to speak. I have used this method of deep drifting at New Jersey' s Shrewsbury Rocks and am convinced of its potential. One very likely spot for Long Island and Connecticut fishermen is the famed bass grounds at the Race in Long Island Sound. Phil Wetmore of Wetmore's Marina is giving them a try and it may not be too long before others follow suit. Florida fishermen have used the riggers for some time drifting live baits over wrecks to entice barracuda, king mackerel, amberjack and others. It only stands to reason that the deep drifting technique should work on northern wrecks, and reefs too, and maybe they could be used codfishing!

There have been other devices on the fishing scene over the years that did take lures down to deep feeding fish. Some, like the planer are still used but most people find them to be too much of a bother keeping track of extra lines and a bulky planer which often just refuses to come aboard. Others have also utilized weights and releases, but none were truly effective until the downrigger. Despite the immediate success of the downriggers in freshwater areas like the Great Lakes saltwater anglers have been relatively slow on the uptake and have viewed the contraptions with a jaundiced eye.

Probably the best salesman for downriggers are not the company men who sell them, but the growing number of fishermen who are actually out fishing them. The proof of the pudding can be seen at the dock!

There are a number of companies manufacturing these rigs, four of which are located in Michigan, the region where they are most popular. In our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area, the Penn Fishing Tackle Company has introduced a well made unit especially suited to saltwater fishing. The Penn Fathomaster is the unit I have installed on my Aquasport. Made completely of aluminum and Delrin, a tough plastic compound, the units have worked well for some time now with no breakdowns or problems, and they come clean at dockside with only a hose and squirt of WD-40 or CRC on the moving parts.

In actual fishing the downriggers are simple to operate. Let's assume for a minute that you and I have launched our boat and are now over a deep water spot known to have fish. The spot could be anywhere on the coast from New Jersey's bluefish ridges, the Middle Grounds of Long Island Sound, off Montauk or up Rhode Island way. After lining up on ranges, we watch the recording depth sounder for the tell tale marks indicating fish. Today, the mark shows at 25 feet.

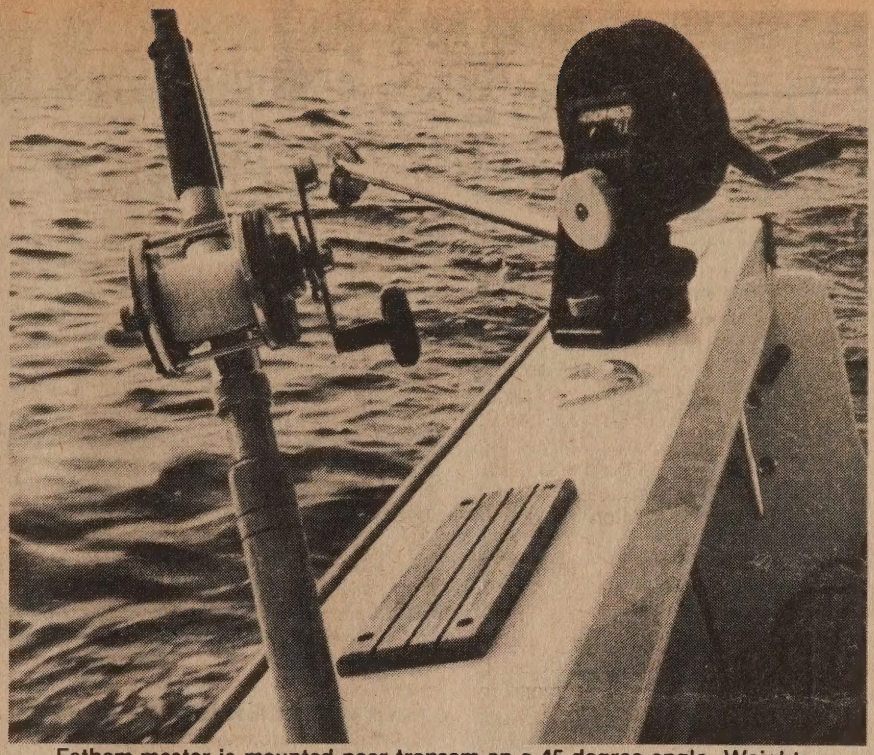
The Fathom Masters are mounted at a 45 degree angle on the gun'ls at the rear of the boat near the transom. A ten pound weight is suspended from braided cable on the downrigger. We'll place a rod in flush mounted holder just ahead of the units, and for sport, each rod and reel is filled with 12 pound test mono so we can really enjoy the blues we know to be under us. I decide to try a Lancer and you select a Rebel swimming plug.

Each reel is placed in free spool with the click on and line is then pulled from the tip top until about 30 feet of line is trailing behind the boat. The line is now clipped to the downrigger weight and the weight is lowered to the 28 foot mark. All downriggers have a digital counter to let you know the exact depth of the line. We went a little deeper to allow for the slight angle of the weight line as it trails away from the transom. Click the reels back into gear. The right amount of line has automatically been pulled out as the weight was lowered.

If our lures are right, it shouldn't be long before one of the rods dips with the strike of a fish and the clicker sings out. From the standpoint of sport, the beauty of the Fathom Master comes into play right now. At the strike, the mono line is popped from the trolling weight at the line release clips. You are now playing your catch from the rod and reel only unencumbered by heavy wire trolling line, trolling weights or planers.

So you see, they are simple to use and after running through the whole procedure two or three times it becomes second nature and you can let out line easily and quickly.

Your graph recorder will usually confirm the depth of the lures as the transducer signal picks up the echo of the trolling weights under the boat. I remember the first time Russ Wilson and I used the Fathom Masters. No sooner had we lowered the units than we began to mark fish. Not getting any hits, we lowered each weight further. Now the marks were lower too! "Let's go even lower", we thought. Needless to say the marks on the graph lowered too. We looked at each other, grinned and felt just a little foolish, but there wasn't a man on the ocean who could say we didn't know how deep we were trolling!



Fathom master is mounted near transom on a 45 degree angle. Weights and cable easily clear the motor.

Most recorders will mark decent size fish with a sharp black line. Since the trolling weights are small by comparison with a gameish, they will read out on the graph as short gray marks and are therefore easily separated from the marks of fish. The weights also give themselves away on the graph by the obvious uniformity of the level of readings. Gamefish will be marked at various depths while the weights must always mark at only the depth they are fished.

Just about any lure can be trolled behind the downrigger. I have used umbrella rigs, single tubes, small spoons, bucktails, plastic shrimp, large and small swimming plugs and different types of live bait. All have proven effective. As a general rule of thumb, lures with little or no action of their own will work better on a shorter drop back from the weight, say about 20 feet. Lures which have a fast or wide sweeping action work better with a longer drop back of about 30 feet. The added length of line gives the lure more freedom of movement. The only lure which cannot be worked properly is the bunker spoon. The pumping, sweeping action is dulled beyond fish catchability and often the spoon will pull itself free of the release clip simply because of its own action.

I must admit that at first I was skeptical of the new fangled inventions. "Give me my wire. I'll get plenty of fish," but after giving deep trollers a try, I am a confirmed believer.

They are not meant to replace wire line. There is absolutely nothing that can top wire for much of the spring and fall bass fishing. But there are spots and times when wire won't get you a fish. Then the downrigger may be just the method to use. For offshore bluefishing they are hard to beat anytime. Even when the blues are on top, there are thousands more waiting a bit deeper than the surfacing fish.

Another good feature of the downriggers is that they let center console boats fish more lines. With wire, I used to run two long rods out the sides mounted in outrigger holders and one rod down the center mounted in a rod holder attached to rear of my storage seat. Now with the Fathom Masters I can still run the two side rods and two more lines down the center at the deep trollers. When fishing is picky, you can troll at four different levels to find fish instead of three.

My guess is that downriggers will become more important in the next season or two and we'll soon see them installed on charter boats as well as private machines. They are fish catchers and if you try them you'll see first hand how good they really are.

ASK THE CAPTAIN

OPINIONS & ANSWERS by Capt. Ronnie Lepper

Question: Edmond Rolfe, Fire Island, N.Y.

There have been some very impressive catches of striped bass, bluefish and weakfish made on bucktails and wire line in the Jones Beach—Fire Island area the past few seasons. I never fished with bucktails but would like to start this season. I can see how the pros jig and where they fish but have no knowledge of rigging or leaders, etc. Any info you can supply for me would make things a lot easier.

Answer:

Bucktails are one of the most productive lures ever invented and every boat owner should keep a supply in his tackle box. There are many shapes and styles on the market along with countless home made models. The three basic types I suggest you start with are the regular bull head or bullet head styles, making sure they pull from the top. One to three ounces is a good weight range. The parrachute type and the combination parrachute and regular type all simulating squid fill out your supply. White and yellow are the two best colors with white holding the lead. Pork rind should always be used, attaching it to the bucktail. If you are fishing in water of 25 feet or less 200 feet of 40 lb. test wire is fine. If over 25 feet you must go to 300 or more feet of wire. I prefer to jig on the backing and not on the wire, 50 lb. test mono or dacron makes for good backing. Connect the wire to the backing with a barrel swivel, the largest one that will slip thru your guides easily. Using 30 lb. test mono for your leader will save you a lot of wire, as it wil break before the wire if you get hung in the bottom. Regardless of the type of bucktail you are using try to keep it as close to the bottom as possible. A short stiff rod with a fast retrieve reel will complete your basic tackle. There are lots of tricks and styles when using bucktails too numerous to mention which you will learn as you go along. Do not feel bad if you are outfished by some of the regulars as they are masters of this type of fishing. I watch some of the boys from Sheepshead *Bay who do this type of fishing every day and often wonder if I have a lure on the end of my line.*

Question: Michael Willis, Brooklyn, N.Y.

When rigging baits for shark fishing is it necessary to hide the hook by sewing it into the bait? I find on those productive days when the action is hot and heavy, the time wasted rigging baits is unreal.

Answer:

I find hook hiding a very important factor when fishing for tuna, but usually unnecessary for shark fishing. When the action is hot and heavy it can cost you much more than it is worth. Try inserting the hook thru the lips from the bottom up, pulling the hook all the way through allowing the wire leader to keep the mouth closed. Bury the hook in the side of the bait about halfway back. This way of rigging takes about one minute and gives the bait a closed mouth realistic look. It may not be the most professional looking bait, but it works. I even had a sword fish go after one of these quick rig baits so it must look okay.

Question: Jack Muller, Bayside N.Y.

I find wire line to be very expensive. Is it a must when trolling for striped bass and bluefish or can I use mono or dacron with heavy drails?

Answer:

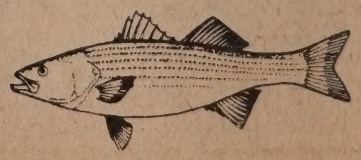
If the water you fish in is less than 15 feet deep you can get away with mono, nylon or dacron if its deeper you must use wire. Not using wire in deeper water cuts your success by 75 percent. If you find monel wire to expensive try using stainless. It's usually a little cheaper. Stainless is not as heavy per dia, and causes a little more friction but it's second only to monel.

Question: Alan Markowitz, Seldon

I have a question pertaining to trolling rods for wire line bass fishing. I noticed that the past few years the trend is going to long side trolling rods. I mean 10 to 13 feet. Is this really necessary? I tried my friends 12 foot rods and find them impossible to handle. I don't think I could ever get used to them. Will not using them have any effect on my bass fishing?

Answer:

No, they are not necessary. Action of the rods is much more important then *length. This long rod thing has gotten completely out* of hand. *I use long side rods only because I troll 5 rods and want to keep them as far apart as possible. The average fisherman who trolls 2 or 3 rods does not need that kind of length. 8 to 9 foot is long enough. The beam of the average 18 to 28 foot boat is approximately 10 foot. Using 8½ foot rod will keep them approximately 9 feet apart with little chance of a tangle. If you troll 4 or more rods you must go for the extra length or you will have turning problems. Let me say again, long rods are only used to keep tangles at a minimum not because of fish catching ability.*



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BY FRED GUARDINEER

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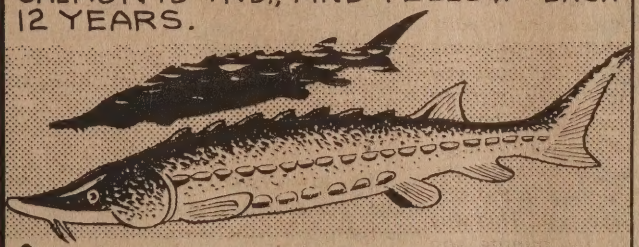

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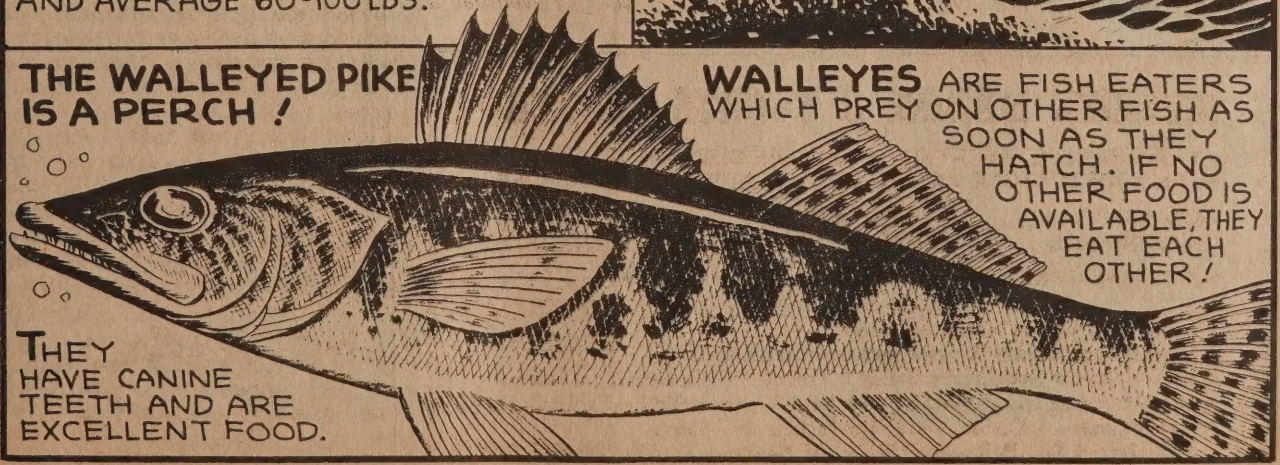

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ROOF RACK MODIFICATION

by Nick Albano

I'm all for making a quick get-away whenever I go fishing. The more prep work I can eliminate, the happier I am. What really bothered me about car topping was the time it took to tie down a boat. Although safety demands that each rope be as tight as possible, I was never really confident when I heard the boat shift an inch or two in a strong crosswind! There had to be a better way!

After giving it some thought and much effort, I concluded that a gunwale grip assembly would do the job. There was reason for concern: I just purchased a new 14 foot Monark and my wife and I were driving to Florida.

For just $7 I purchased all the required parts, plus an extra set to keep on hand. You can get these items at any hardware store. Parts for one set-up include:

A. Four 3/8 in. x 4 in. bolts.

B. Four 3/8 in. x 1 in. washers.

C. Eight 3/8 in. lock washers.

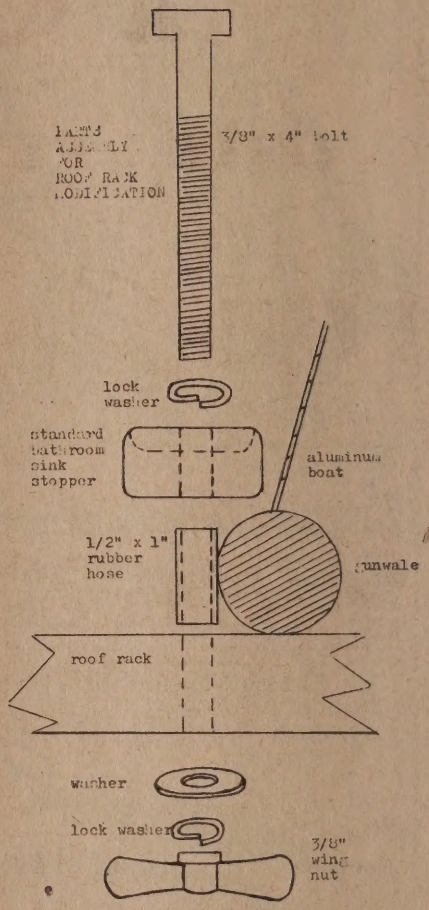
D. Four 1 in. sections of ½ in. rubber hose.

E. Four standard bathroom sink stoppers (remove the ring and drill 3/8 in. hole through center.)

F. Four 3/8 in., wing nuts.

Author's easy modification keeps car toppers from slipping.

The first and most important step is drilling the holes in your roof racks. Place the boat, centered and balanced, on the racks which are secured to your car top. Now carefully mark your racks directly next to the gunwales. Also be sure to mark your gunwales for proper alignment later. Remove boat and racks, being sure that the racks are designated front and back. Use an electric drill with 3/8 in. hardened steel bit and drill the four holes as marked on racks. After drilling, secure racks to car top and place boat on racks, aligning the drilled holes to mark on gunwale. Now you are ready to install the modification as illustrated. Boat grip assembly must fit flush to gunwale. Tighten wing nuts by hand, then use pliers for an extra turn. The sink stoppers and rubber hose will not scratch y our boat. Your ride will be silent and safe. No cross ropes are necessary; however, a bow and stern rope to front and rear bumpers are required to keep your boat from slipping forward or backward. I field tested this device from New Jersey to Florida and back. With cross winds gusting to 40 mph over the Potomac Bridge, I barely heard a creak from my boat.



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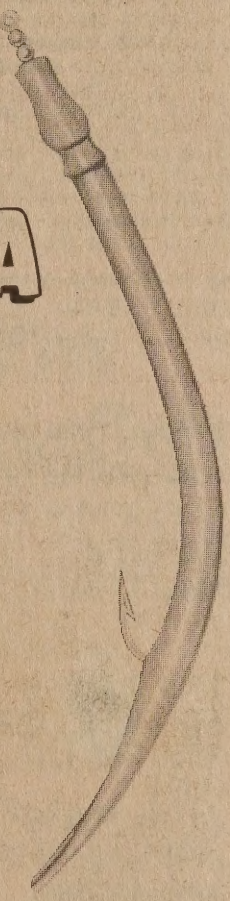

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MONTAUK REPORT

by Scott Simons

MONTAUK

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** reported the the Viking Star has been doing very good with the cod at Coxes Ledge, with plenty of hangers. The **Viking Starlite** is running two half-day trips daily for fluke and the fishing in general has been very good with everybody getting fish.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helen II** told us that the fluking has been very, very good all week and consistent. On Sunday the pool was taken by a 9-¼ lb. doormat, and several that size were taken during the week. The larger fish seem to be more east now toward the Midway area, and the fishing has been good through both tides and even the slack. Still a lot of sea bass mixed in with the fluke. Brad Glas Tip of the Week #13: "Listen to the mates on an open boat when they tell you how to rig up-they're out fishing every day of the week and know what works best. Fluke rigs should be kept simple, no beads or spinners, and the hook must have a long leader." Brad also told us that the **Helen II** will be fishing open for fluke this Thursday- they WILL NOT be going out to see the Tall Ships as they pass by Block Island as many of the other Montauk boats are doing.

Captain Richard Rade of the **Marlin III** confirmed the excellent fluke fishing in the usual rips off the Many anglers had as many as 20 to 25 keepers during the week and the average catch per man is usually 10 or 15. On Saturday the pool was taken by an 11½ pounder, and five others were over 6 lbs. The fluke are taking spearing, sand eels or fluke belly through both tides.

Captain Paul Sundberg of the charter-boat **Montauk** told us that on a charter last Saturday 105 pound Elise Angeloro of Brooklyn caught a 170 lb. mako shark. One brown shark was also taken fishing south/southwest twenty miles from the Point. Paul told us that all the offshore boats have been averaging between 4 and 8 sharks a trip. The fluke fishing is still the best bet for inshore fishermen.

Capt. Warren Hader of the charter-boat **Devilfish** was happy to tell us that Anthony Riccardi scored with a 465 lb. dusky shark on a charter last Sunday. The big shark took a bunker bait in the chum slick set up south of the Point in 200 feet of water and took three hours to beat on a 9/0 outfit loaded with 80 pound test. Warren was a little frustrated that

These 14 bass up to 25 lbs. were taken by Gene Rackovitch and his son Mike. The bass were taken on Ava diamond jigs aboard Capt. John De Maio's charter boat "Vivienne".

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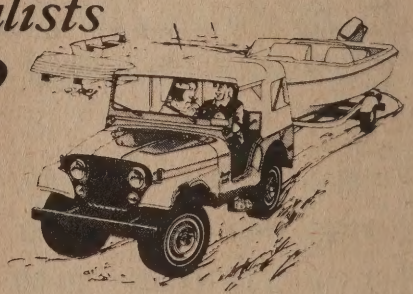

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Shown here are Norman Bechelman, Victor Kitlitz, Bill Witchey, Jr. and Steve Leipertz who were the winners aboard the Viking Star's Nantucket Wreck Trip.

he couldn't bait the blue shark and two makos that were breaching in the chum slick while the dusky was being fought.

Capt. Frank Pike of the charterboat **Leatherneck** said that the bass fishing has been spotty with one trip good, the next poor. Incoming water has been the best, and the bass are averaging in the teens. Trolling umbrella rigs, jigging bucktails and diamond jigging are all taing fish. Frank also told us that the charterboat **Hound Dog** took a small Great White Shark of 150 lbs. on the weekend.

Capt. Dickie Vigilant of the **Triton II** spent most of the week fluke fishing with his charters and had very good results. The bluefishing has been on and off at Cartwright and should be more consistent very soon. The triton ii still has a few weekday openings for large or small group charters for bluefishing or bottom fishing.

Local bass sharpshooter **Captain John Demaio** of the charterboat **Vivienne** reported that the bass action has now fallen into the summertime pattern of fall and evening fishing. Sunday John took six bass to 22 lbs. on Ava Diamond Jigs. Over the weekend Eugene Stoller and sons Michael and David went out with 'John and took 18 nice fluke up to 5 lbs. and four weakfish at dusk at Shagwong Point.

Capt. Bob Braun and Capt. Jay Liebell of the charterboat **My Rose** said that on Saturday Jack Nygren of Mcdonalds Hamburgers whipped a blue shark of 127 lbs. that was weighed in at the Star Island Yacht Club. Also aboard were Paul Weiner and Fred Marceau. Several sharks were also lost, and four big bluefish about 13 lbs. were taken in the chum slick set up 20 miles from the

Several members of the N.Y. Islanders went shark fishing aboard Capt. Frank Braddick's Charterboat "Hurry Up" and came up with an 80 lb. blue shark along with many 14 lb. blues. Shown here are (L to R) Capt. F. Braddick, Jude Drouin, Lorne Henning, Gary Howatt, Capt. Ron D'Albora and up front John Drouin.

Point, 155 degrees in 200 feet of water.

Ed Miller of the West Lake Fishing Lodge called to tell us that the "'heidi-Baby" took a mako shark of 205 lbs. 30 miles south of the Point last week. on Thursday mornikng Alex Joyce

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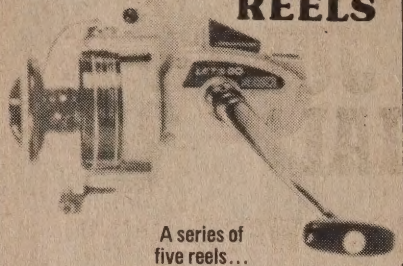

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This is the catch aboard the Peconic Queen III on their recent Nantucket wreck trip. John Milko, Stanley Kost, Chester Malesyewski and Eddie Kluisza all members of the Elite fishing club with a total of 39 fish.

of the "Sonia" took 297 lbs. of striped bass by himself at Plum Island off Old Silas Rock. The charterboat "Free Spirit" went a couple of rounds with a giant sunfish-the sunfish won the battle when it snapped off the boats shaft.

A Dream Trip is what Capt. Les Beehan called his latest Nantucket Wreck Trip from which the boat returned on last Tuesday at 4 P.M. We really loaded up said Les, fishing two Nantucket Wrecks, with the first drop being over the Pennsylvania and fishing there from 7 A.M. until 3 P.M. on Monday. The weather was beautiful and there was continuous action all day long. Verranzano Rod and Gun Club of Brooklyn members Joe Hearst and Ricko Lauro, along with Carl Hernandez and Carl Jr. boated 2600 pounds of fish on the first wreck. At least one of them continued filleting cod, pollack for the entire trip while the others fished, in rotation. Most of the catch was cod. They were not high hook either. John Stobierski and Paul Pankowski and Al Miller of Brooklyn took 95 cod between the 3 of them. Al took a $308 pool with a 63 pound cod. The $75 fare was paid by 25 passengers and they fished in extreme comfort along with 10 members of the crew. All of these dedicated wreck fishermen said that the fishing and conditions were absolutely perfect, and could not be better. They do not expect that they will ever have such a perfect combination of weather and fast fishing action again such as this. The **Peconic Queen** finally moved over to a second wreck and loaded up again with cod, fishing fast and furious. Fillets filled coolers at a rapid rate. The Queen then went for tile in the Atlantic Canyon and the fish obliged and were fair sized as well. Captain Behan says that this was the best Nantucket Weck trip that he can remember making with beautiful weather both ways, and wild fishing also. Excellent visibility at all times with people catching and filleting like there was no end to it. There are up to 8 tile per man.

Captain Frank Maccaro of the **Free Spirit** called to say that on Tuesday June 22nd, he fished west of the Butterfish Hole and zapped a lot of blue sharks plus a load of 18 pound class bluefish. In addition, a 200 pound Mako shark was also brought to the boat and then cut loose.

The charterboat **Miss Behave III** last Tuesday morning had 9 bass to 33½ pounds, bunker dunking and five bass in the evening up to 29 pounds, all at the Elbow.

The **Free Spirit** called again to say that Saturday he got 47 fluke at the North Rips, 5 to 6 pounds.

The **Viking Skipper II** is fishing Gardiner's Island for porgies, blacks and sea bass. Captain Buddy Dorman says that this is the best start in a number of years and that those fishing hard should fill a five gallon bucket easily. Porgies are running up to 1½ pounds and blacks up to 7 pounds.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** called to tell us that the beautiful weekend made for some excellent fishing, particularly offshore. Captain Arthur Gertsman of the "Bumble Bee" sailed 25 miles south of the Point to 205-210 feet of water to bag a 155 lb. Great White Shark on a rigged mackerel. Fred Vazac was on the rod. The Bumble Bee also took a white shark of 487 pounds last year. Henry told us that the crazy Connecticut bunch of the "Aquaholic" arrived on Friday to do some swordfishing. On Saturday Captain Richard Polidori took the boat out to the 40 fathom curve in the shipping lanes south of the Point. They spotted one sword, baited it three times without success, then stuck the 271 pound swordfish with a harpoon. Five other swords were spotted by boats out of Star Island on Sunday but none were taken. The "Hi-Lee" took 50 fluke up to 7 pounds in the North Rips on Sunday, and the "Sea Spray" also had about 50 in the same area.

L.I.F. contributing SurfSide writer **John Frit** gave us a call to let us know that the fluke fishing from the surf at Shagwong and along Gin Beach has been excellent, and the weakfish have begun to show in the surf in the same areas ast dusk and night.

For you Coxes Ledge codfishermen out there, it's important to know that both the **Peconic Queen III** and the **Viking Star** won't be sailing on Sunday July 4th. The **Peconic Queen III** has a charter and will participate in the parade for the Bicentennial in New York Harbor. The **Viking Star** will not be fishing on Wednesday, June 30th and Thursday July 1st or on the Fourth of July. The **Viking Starlite** will not be sailing on July 1st but will be sailing for fluke on the Fourth.

Skippy at the **Cove Marina** reported that their boats have been doing excellent offshore but the bass fishing is slow and blues are just starting. The "Mistress Too" took a mess of blue sharks 35 miles south of the Point in 35 to 40 fathoms of water. The "Nancy

Ann'' had several blue sharks and a swordfish was on for a while but was dropped. The ''Surfmaster'' had a couple of brown sharks and blue sharks. Frank Marrazo fished buoy 5 for fluke and took one doormat of 13 pounds; several in the four to six pound range and quite a few smaller.

Ronnie at the **Gone Fishing Marina** called to tall us that Capt. Tony Maltese of the **Rocc** had a party of 3 headed by Clyde Gammon out fluking with excellent results. Fishing the North rips, two doormats of 9½ pounds, each were taken with four six pounders amongst a catch of 44 fish. They also took a 20 lb. striped bass casting plugs. Ron said the fluke fishing has been absolutely fantastic in the North Rips, Shagwong and along Gin Beach.

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

PROMISED LAND

The **Promised Land Fishing Station** reports the fluke are in good by Gardiners Island. There have been up to 20 keepers per boat. Porgies have finally settled in for the season and catches of up to 3 bushels have been taken. Sunday for some unexplained reason the catch dropped to a half bushel per boat. A few weaks were taken on an AM tide on top.

EAST HAMPTON

Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station reports the porgies are in. They were taken at buoy 13. there are plenty of fluke in the rip at the Ruins according to Bill Flynn. He should know he took a load of 3 and 4 lb. fluke using sand eel and squid. About ⅓ were throw backs. His real catch was a 14½ lb. fluke that took a hunk of squid.

SHINNECOCK

Mickey at **Altenkirch Tackle** reports the offshore fishing has increased quite a bit. He had reports of two swords of 200 plus lbs. and a couple of makos that went 100 to 150 lbs. picked up about 12 miles southeast of the inland. Bluefish both large and small and striped bass to 15 lbs. have all been trolled on umbrella rigs in the inlet. Fluke in good quantity are still being taken in Shinnecock Bay. When the locks open in the canal blues of about 4 of a lb. are being taken on metal lures and Pulsating Pussycat. A few weaks are also being taken in the bay.

HAMPTON BAYS

Skipper's Fishing Station called to say that on Saturday and Sunday his skiffs were averaging 20 to 25 keeper fluke per boat, in the 2 to 3 pound range, with incoming best in East Channel on squid

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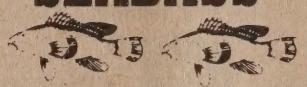
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Jack Silverman, Steven Alter and Jeff Cohen with 65 keeper fluke drifting from bouy 36 to 38 on sand eels and squid. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

and sand eel combos.

Corr's Fishing Station reports that the fluke remains excellent with 15 to 20 keepers per boat, running 15 to 18 inches as a common catch. Best is in the early morning tides at East Channel and also off the Coast Guard Station, using live killies or sand eel and squid combos. A 4½ pound fluke was hung by Tom Ganser of Jersey whose party took 19

Vinnie Savino caught this 12 lb. 4 oz. fluke while drifting live killie and squid combinations. Vinnie and his son had 21 fluke while fishing the new cut out of the Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station.

keepers in 3 hours of fishing. Good sized porgies are still being taken in the South Race off Robbin's Island on skimmers and squid. Corr's bi-centennial special of $17.76 is bringing reservations hot and heavy, so reserve early if interested. Check their ad for details.

Bradleys Fishing Station reports good fluke fishing in the East Channel, by the Coast Guard Station and at the Ponoquogue Bridge. About half are throw backs and they are mostly 1½ to 3 lbs. Squid spearing and killeys are the bait.

MORICHES BAY

Larry at the L&M Marine reports that the fluke fishing is good in the bay. Bigger fish are at buoy 43 and are being taken on either sand eels or killey. Average keepers are 15 per boat.

Silly Lilly Fishing Station reports terrific fluke fishing along the sand bars at the edge of the channel by buoys 36 to 39. Best bait is squid and sand eels combination. Up to 40 keepers per boat have been taken with sizes going to 5 lbs.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station tells us that the weakfish have come back again starting on Wednesday and are feeding nicely on Salty Dogs at buoy 17. These are 3 to 6 pound fish and the best time is 2 hours after the low. Blues are along with them from buoy 17 to 12. Blues running ¾ to 4 pounds. Popping plugs, shrimp jigs, just about any artificial will do the job. Crabs are starting heavy in traps and nets between buoys 17 and 15. Fluke on sandeels and killie/squid combos from buoy 17 to 23. A few stripers have been taken under the bridge and in the flats along with some blowfish.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reports weaks and blues "Terrific" between buoys 19 and 21 on shrimp jigs and small Hopkins and small shrimp lures tipped with squid or clam. These are 5 to 6 pounders and you must use a fast retrieve. Fluking is good just east of 17 on sand eels and spearing. Incoming is working best. Lots of blue claw crabs off the town dock along with fluke.

SAYVILLE

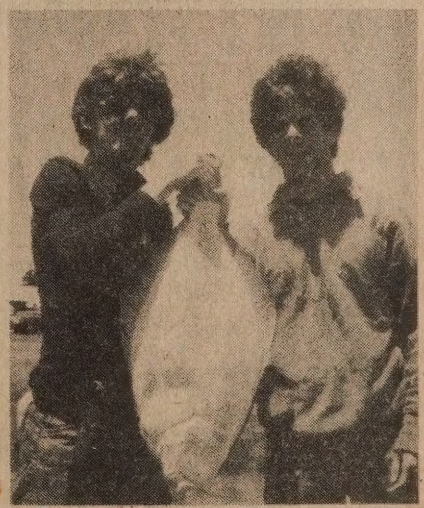
Young's Fishing Station reports between buoys 22 and 29 [between the Pines and the Grove) good catches of weakfish and fluke are being made on squid, sand eels on imcoming water.

OAKDALE

Howie's Fishing Station tells us that Ed Coury and brothers took 9 fluke on live killies along with 2 weakfish on tubes at Ocean Beach. Don Raynor reports weaks and blues are good just south of buoy 19.

OAKBEACH

The Store tells us that fluking is fair in the inlet with a lot of small fish. Flounder action has slowed at the Sore Thumb and in the back, though they can still be taken. No weakfish reports, but 2 to 3 pound blues are storming the inlet every night. On Saturday morning Joe Belmonte of West Islip took a 23 pound bass on a live eel at Cedar Beach. A few bass up to 30 pounds are being taken at Point Democrat. Bill says there is no pollution and no sludge in the area so come on down as the beaches and water are clean and the fish hungry.



Scott and Ken Hoberman of Elmont caught this 12 lb. fluke on the incoming tide between bouys 36 and 39 on shiners. Photo courtesy of Seatuck Cove Fishing Station.

EAST ISLIP

Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle tells of blues at Ocean Beach, Dickerson's Channel and Heckscher on butterfish, bunker chum and big O plugs. Fluke at the Coast Guard Station on spearing and sand eel combos.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle tells us that Steve Ryder of Bayshore fishing the West Channel took a dozen fluke along with some small fish on spearing/Squid combos and also took some blowfish. A few fluke have been taken off the Bayshore Marina Dock. Crabs are improving throughout the bay. A few weaks at the Coast Guard Station on sand worms on hi-low rigs. Redfins are getting a few weaks and stripers from the bridge to the inlet in the early morning hours and late afternoon. Twenty big choppers were taken by a shark fisherman on Saturday morning southwest of the inlet in 110 feet of water.

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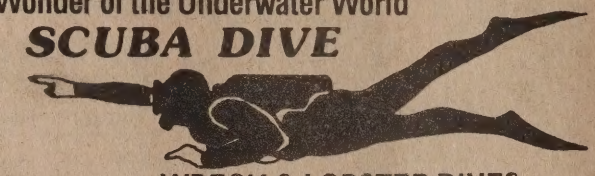

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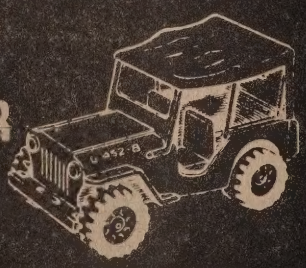
506 Sunrise Hwy. PATCHOGUE 516-475-1680
"When Riding Our Long Island Beaches Treat Them Like The Valuable Recreational Resource They Are...At Tire-Care...We Care!"
DINERS CLUB

4 Wheel Drive
DISCOUNT
TIRE & WHEEL CENTER
Wide Tires ★ Wide Wheels
We Challenge Anyone to Beat Our Prices
Southampton Tire Center, Inc.
formerly Eastern General Tire
Next to McDonald's
N. Sea Rd. at N. Highway
Southampton
Dealers Invited
283-4205

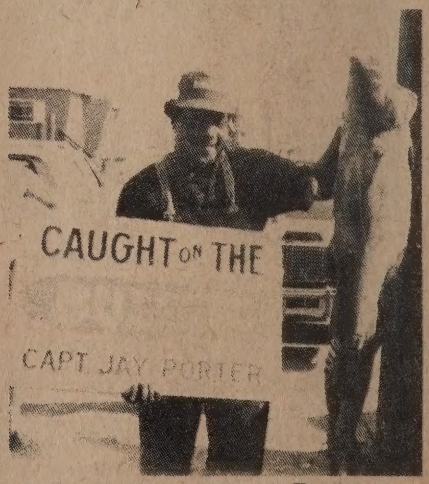


CAPTREE

Captain Jay Porter of the **Bullet** called to say that he will now be sailing as an open boat from Captree strictly for offshore fish on a daily and nightly basis. The Senior renouned Captain Jay will continue to make his famous special trips Long time Captree favorite Captain Sandy will run daily for blues and tuna. Many exciting new ideas and innoviations will be employed for all **Bullet** customers. Jay says that now the newest, fastest, most well equipped boat in the east will be sailing from one of the best fishing ports in the country. Keep your eye on next week's ad in LIF for all the details. Fish lookout!

The **Jib V** and **Jib vi** have both been doing a pretty good job on fluke, and there are now less shorts and nicer size fish in the catches. Hot areas have been the inlet, Robert Moses Bridge and off the Coast Guard Station. The biggest pool fish during the week was a 6½ pounder. Best bait live killies of fluke belly. The Captain asked us to pass on the word that both the bay and fish are perfectly clean and have not been effected in any way by the sludge problems of last week.

Captain George Tweedy of the **Catp. Scotty** also reported good fishing for fluke starting with a real bonanza on Thursday, and remained good Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The fish are good size in West Channel, Ocean Beach and Snakehill Channel. The high-hook is usually 15 or 16 keepers, and the average per man is 5 to 7. This Friday



Bullet regular customer Terrance Arthur of Brooklyn with one of his giant $300 pool winning cod, caught this past Sunday.

night the boat will make its first bluefish trip of the season at 7PM, and trips will be made every night from then on. Fluke will still be the daytime quarry.

Captain Neil Delanoy of the **Lady Ann** reported that the fluke fishing was good and both Saturday and Sunday, with Sunday's fishing best. Neil said that they had a cancellation for Sunday, July 11th, so the date is now open for a group of twenty or more. The special bluefish trip on Friday Night, July 2nd, is all booked up but there are still a few openings for the Friday night trip on July 9th. These special bluefish trips are limited to 20 men, but you must make a reservation. Call Neil for further details.

BABYLON

Charlie's Fishing Station reports plenty of fluke in larger now up to 3½ pounds with lots of keepers. The average is 8 to 12 keepers per boat. State Channel, behind Grass Island and the East West Channel over towards Copiague with sand eel/Squid combos doing the trick. The sludge has had absolutely nothing to do with bay fishing and all the water is clean so have no fears. Crabs are also starting in nets and traps.

Hi-Hook Fishing Station reports that Saturday's fishing was fantastic in quantity of good keeper fluke, boats bringing back catches of 30, 23, 18, etc. Snake Hill Channel, Dickersons Channel are both producing. Sam and Al of N.J. got 34 fluke at the lighthouse so the fish are there. Lots of shorts that must be returned will also engulf your bait but there are enough good keepers to full the bucket so Mario says "Let's see your face."

Bergen Point Fishing Station reports the Bayshore Mako Tournament winner was Larry Christie on the "Chris-T" with a 286 lb. Mako which took 25 minutes to boat, taken 165 degrees out of the inlet in 125 feet of water.

Moises Cruz caught this 291 lb. 8 oz. thresher shark aboard the "Pat-E" in 140 ft. of water 165 degrees s. of Fire Island Inlet. The shark took 3 hours to land. Photo courtesy of Augie's Bait & Tackle.

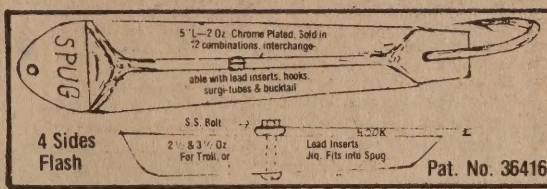
WORMS
BLOOD & SAND
$1.67 Per Doz. (+ Tax)

FRESH BUNKER!
LIVE KILLIES!
LIVE BASS EELS!

ALL TACKLE—
Sinkers .05 oz.

Retail & Wholesale

YELLOW SHED BAIT&TACKLE
162-01 Cross Bay Blvd., HOWARD BEACH 212-848-0673


SPUG
5" L—2 Oz Chrome Plated. Sold in 12 combinations, interchange-
able with lead inserts, hooks, surgi-tubes & bucktail
S.S. Bolt
2 & 3½ Oz For Troll. or
Lead Inserts Jig. Fits into Spug

4 Sides Flash

Pat. No. 3641698

The PERFECT LURE for all game fish, Blues, Stripers, Salmon, Pike, Yellowtail, Tarpon, Jacks, Lake Trout, Steelhead, etc.
MINNOE LURE COMPANY
P.O. Box 98
Milford, Conn. 06460

The Long Island FISHERMAN CONTEST

FISHING TRIP

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

★ Bonus Prize ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT, the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

Barbara Wright of Dix Hills called into LIF by the Friday deadline to become this week's Litter Box Contest Winner. She has been sent a check for $50 and has also chosen a free fishing trip for two aboard the Viking Star as her prize.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

464-GSC

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	SHEEPSHEAD BAY	NORTH SHORE
Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet	FREEPORT Aloma II	

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THUR.	11:26	11:32	—	12:05	—	12:09	12:15	12:57	2:03	2:34	2:22	2:53	11:21	11:38	7/1
FRI.	—	12:17	12:19	12:55	12:11	1:01	1:07	1:48	2:51	3:24	3:09	3:43	—	12:13	7/2
SAT.	12:25	1:10	1:09	1:51	1:04	1:50	2:03	2:43	3:44	4:15	4:03	4:37	12:31	1:06	7/3
SUN.	1:20	2:08	2:04	2:50	1:58	2:43	3:01	3:42	4:39	5:14	5:00	5:32	1:27	2:04	7/4
MON.	2:20	3:06	3:04	3:53	2:54	3:40	4:06	4:42	5:42	6:19	6:00	6:31	2:28	3:06	7/5
TUE.	3:23	4:09	4:09	4:55	3:59	4:43	5:10	5:42	6:55	7:32	7:05	7:32	3:30	4:05	7/6
WED.	4:32	5:12	5:14	5:56	5:09	5:46	6:13	6:40	8:25	8:52	8:09	8:33	4:31	5:05	7/7
THUR.	5:38	6:12	6:19	6:54	6:15	6:45	7:15	7:35	9:39	9:59	9:10	9:31	5:31	6:00	7/8

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide , add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

7/4	5:29	8:39
7/14	5:36	8:35
7/19	5:41	8:31
7/24	5:45	8:27
7/29	5:50	8:22

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
7/27	7/4	7/11	7/19

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	8:30	**2:40**	8:50	**3:10**
FRI.	9:25	**3:35**	9:45	**4:00**
SAT.	10:15	**4:30**	10:40	**4:55**
SUN.	11:10	**5:25**	11:35	**5:55**
MON.	—	**6:15**	12:10	**6:40**
TUES.	12:25	**7:05**	12:55	**7:30**
WED.	1:15	**7:55**	1:45	**8:25**
THURS.	2:05	**8:50**	2:40	**9:20**

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

"CHIEF"
112' FAST, MODERN TWIN DIESEL
FLUKE • FLUKE • FLUKE
10AM EVERY DAY (Exc. Mon.)
Special Attention to Beginners
All Electronics • Snack Bar • Tackle
SHEEPSHEAD BAY • PIER 5
"Finest Equipped Boat In Any Fleet"
Capt. Wrege • (516) PE 5-1829
Mates: Joe Ecock & Sons
BLUEFISHING EVERY FRI. & SAT. NITE, 7PM

BLUE SEA II
75' Open Boat—Full Electronics
SAILING 8AM EVERY DAY
Large Night Charters Available
Pier 8 • SHEEPSHEAD BAY
Capt. Nick Cannisi • (212) TA-7-0791

SEABASS • FLUKE
FLAMINGO II
65 Ft. • Triple Screw • All Electronics
6:30 AM DAILY
Parkway Fish. Sta., Knapp St. Exit, Belt Pkwy.
Capts. John & Walter Wiegand • TW-1-3980

SHEEPSHEAD BAY
CHARTER SERVICE
"NO GROUP TOO LARGE OR TOO SMALL"
212-646-8083 212-373-7721

STATEN ISLAND

FISHERBOY
40' Diesel Sportfisherman

Blues (Day & Nite)
Shark Fishing
Tuna
Stripers
Bottom Fishing

Capt. Angie Sarlo
(212) 273-1718
Mansion Marina
Gr. Kills, Staten Is.
6 Pass. Charter Boat

Don't be a
Water-Litterbug!

Take your garbage
back to the dock!

Mate Bill Mastro holds 2 fluke, 5½ and 8 ¾ lbs. caught aboard the Seahorse out of Lindenhurst.

LINDENHURST

The Bullet is now at Captree, so check the Captree reports for Bullet activities this week.

Charlie's Bait and Tackle tells us that Saturday and Sunday saw excellent fluking from Frank and Dick's to the Inlet, though mainly at the inlet. Live killies along with sand eel/squid combos accounted for a lot of small fish and for a lot of keepers, both tides. Blues are in hot and heavy at Oakbeach in the dawn hours so get down there and load up. Watch for the birds. Bass and blues are hitting white Sekora tubes and umbrellas inside and outside from the construction dock to the Sore Thumb. Still some flounders at Oakbeach on bloodworms. Blueclaw crabs at the Wellwood Avenue Dock. A few bass have been taken on live eels from the beaches, Cedar Overlook, the Sore Thumb and Point Democrat.

Skipper Bob Fischer of the charter boat **Lazy Day** reports that he has been having good fluking the greater part of the week in local hot spots and that the best is yet to come.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports fluke in the bays with a lot of short fish which must be returned. Lots of bunker that blues are feeding on so watch the birds. A few schools of bass were at Tobay and surfcasters slinging eels or clam baits are racking up a few. George says that the water is clear and no pollution or sludge is visible. Blackfish are at the bridges on fiddlers. A 28 pound striper was taken on Friday morning in the Zach's Bay area on a live eel.

SEAFORD

Wanser Bait and Tackle reports fluking has picked up this week with sand eels working best at the beginning and last hour of incoming working best. Sloop Channel, by the piers, Squaw Island, Goose Creek, the Inlet area and Haunts Creek should be tried. Tuesday things really started strong. Some bass at the bridges on bunker and in the state channel on poppers. Big stripers on bunker at the bridges and jettys as evidenced by 10 year old Paul Motley with a 39½ pound bass taken on bunker at the Lido Jetty from a boat. The fish are there. Weakfish on worms at night at the bridges.

Salice Boat Basin reports Saturday and Sunday very good with lots of good sized fluke from 1¾ to 4 pounds. 90 percent of these were on sand eels, from Four Corners to the Meadowbrook Bridge, Squaw Island, Zach's Bay, all tides. Weakfish at Four Corners up to 7½ pounds on squid. Small sea bass and blackfish at the bridges on squid and clam.

BELLMORE

Frank at **Merrick Marine Supplies** tells of 1 18 pound bass on Saturday night by Joe V. along with 1 other fish at Zach's Bay on bunker. Bassing is generally spotty. Frank weighed in a 44½ pound bass taken by Al of National Appliances in Uniondale taken in Jones Inlet on a bunker. Frank also weighed in a 14 pound 10 ounce fluke taken by Bob Harder of the East Bay Anglers, from Montauk waters.

SPECIAL REQUEST

A special request to a kind hearted boatman has been made by 73 year old ex-sailor Richard Montoux of 84 Bloomingdale Road, Levittown, N.Y., phone (516) PY6-8865. Richard would like to be able to see the Tall Ships Exhibition in New York Harbor on the 4th of July so will one of you big hearted boatmen out there call Richard for a view of this once in a life time spectacle.

MERRICK

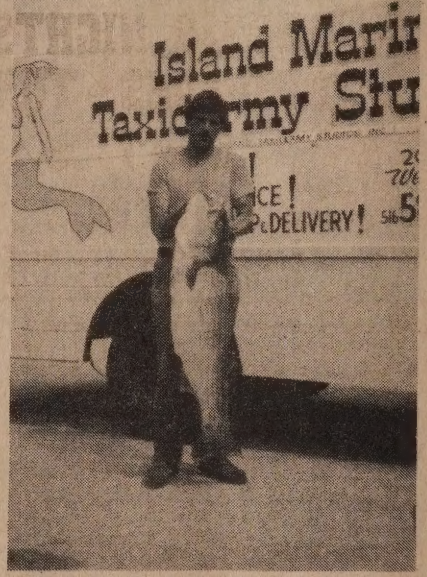
Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports that the Nick's Point Tuna Club Shark Tournament held this past week-

ISLAND PARK • ISLAND PARK • ISLAND PARK
REYNOLDS MARINE
Located On REYNOLD'S CHANNEL—
400' West of the Long Beach R.R. Trestle
516-431-4239
GAS • DIESEL • ICE • ALL BAITS
JOHNSON MOTORS—Sales & Service
ALL YEAR DRY LAND MARINA • FROZEN FISH & SHRIMP
WINTER STORAGE & WINTERIZING

Steve Maher caught this 20 lb. striper on a live bunker just off the Short Beach Coast Guard Station on 10 lb. test. Subscriber Club Photo.

end saw John Demeno bag the winning shark, a 185 pound Mako. Frank Freaney had a 180 pound Mako while Brian Clinton of Merrick had a 113 lb. Mako. this was all on Saturday aboard the "Marjon." On Sunday, George Santry on "Big Bird" hung a 147 lb. Mako. Lots of small blue and brown sharks were taken, all in 240 feet of water about 10 miles south of the HA. This was on bunker chum and mackerel.

On Saturday, LIF staffer Stu Miller was fortunate enough to have the infamous G. Korn and son Larry aboard his 14 foot Starcraft. Fluke was the target and at the end of the day, there were but 4 keepers in the box, the largest we regret to say being taken by the small Korn. Good fortune smiled upon this trip as G. Korn managed not to fall out of the boat, as is his custom.



Dick Mele of the Empire Striper Club caught this 54 lb. 8 oz. striper in the Rockaway surf on a live bunker and is leading the Island Taxidermy Big Fish Contest so far.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Paul Schmidt of the **Aloma II** said the people were slow in coming but the fluke were there for the taking. On Saturday and Sunday the average catch off Riis Park was 20 to 25 fish. Most of these fish are in the 2 to 4 lb. range and the pool fish go 6 to 8 lbs. It was slow during the week down by Jones but as the week progressed the water cleared upand the fishing picked up. All the fish that have been caught are clean and okay to eat. Both the **Aloma II** and the **Aloma will be fishing this 4th of July weekend.**

The Aloma has been having nice catches of sea bass all week long. A few ling and porgies are also being taken.

Capt. Johnny A of the **Miss Freeport** fished to the west by the Rockaways this weekend. Over half the fish caught were throw backs but there was plenty of action. Over 300 fish were taken on the week end and most of these fish were in the 2 to 4 lbs. class. These fish are being taken on spearing and squid. His son John Jr. took an 8½ lb. fluke on this bait but he was not in the pool. On SUNDAY THE **Lucky Strike III** took out a group known as the check cashers headed by Steve Tax of the Bronx. There are a lot of throwbacks but over 50 fluke were taken on sand eels and killys. The pool fish ran 4¼ lbs.

Captain Richie Kessinger of the **Starstream II** advises that on July 4th he will be sailing a special 6 P.M. (approx.) midnight trip for the Fire Works in New York Harbor. This trip will be by reservation only for groups or individual bookings, at $20 per person. Call for info or reservations at (516) 379-2753. Bring your own food.

Frank's Marina and Fishing Station

AMITYVILLE

FISH-ON
30' FIBERGLASS SPORTFISHERMAN
Inshore & Offshore Fishing Charters
SHARK • BLUES • TUNA
6 Pass. Limit • Res. Call Mornings
Capt. Nelson Otto Reuss, Mate (516) 842-1914

BABYLON

SHARK • BLUES • TUNA • BAY
NOW BOOKING FOR '76
NASHI ZEN
32 FT. TWIN SCREW SPORTFISHERMAN
New Elect. & Tackle • An Honest Day's Fishing!!!
Capt. NICK DIETZ 516-543-3879
Capt. DENNIS DIETZ 516-269-9348

SAFE • FAST • LUXURIOUS
TRIED 'n TRUE
NOW BOOKING FOR 1976 SEASON
Specializing In SHARK • TUNA • BLUES
BAIT & TACKLE INCLUDED
Special I.G.F.A. Gamefish Charters
CAPT. JOHN BILITSKY 516-586-7094

Captree Queen
FABULOUS FLUKING 7 AM DAILY
Afternoon Trips 3:30 PM
Sails From Right Side of Dock
The Open Boat with the
FRIENDLY, FAMILY ATMOSPHERE

CAPTREE

CAPTREE'S LARGEST, MOST COMFORTABLE BOATS
CAPT. JOSEPH FLEET
SAILING DAILY 7&8A.M. FOR **FLUKE**
DAILY AFTERNOON FLUKE TRIPS 3:30 PM
PLACE YOUR FAMILY IN OUR HANDS FOR AN ENJOYABLE DAY'S FISHING IN LANDLOCKED BAYS—NO SEASICKNESS!!!
We Have the Most Helpful Mates to Make Your Day On Our Boats Pleasant!
TACKLE & BAIT PROVIDED
(516) 567-2188 ••• (516) 669-2840

FLUKE TERRIFIC!
—CAPTREE'S LARGEST & FASTEST—
CAPT. JOSEPH IV
FLUKE 7 A.M. DAILY
LARGE PARTIES ACCOMMODATED FOR
TACKLE & BAIT PROVIDED
516-567-2188

CAPTREE

NITE BLUE SPECIAL

BEAT THE CROWDS—NO TANGLES!
20 Man Limit On 70 Passenger Boat
Fare $20. Extra Trip added Fri. Nite, July 9th
By Single Res. & Small Groups Only
Lady Ann—516-698-5918, 516-678-5175

LADY ANN

FOR CHARTER
CAPTREE'S LARGEST
FINEST, BEST EQUIPPED
FLUKE • BLUES • SEABASS
Charter Rates & Info—516-698-5918
Frantic & Fantastic
NIGHT BLUES
Capt. Walter Specht, Jr. (516) 678-5175
Capt. Neil Delanoy (516) 698-5918

LOOK OUT FISH!
THE BULLET
IS GOING TO GET YOU!

"I'm just looking at the size of fish other Party Boats catch"

SAILING CAPTREE
DAYS & NIGHTS
FOR BLUES • TUNA
COD • TILE

Sr. Capt. Jay Porter — Capt. Sandy

See Next Weeks L.I.F. For for Details

Capt. SCOTTY

FLUKE 6AM Sat. & Sun. 7AM Weekdays
BLUES 7PM Every Nite

Right Side of Dock by Bait Station
Women & Children Accommodated
CAPTREE MO-9-2256 MO-9-0627

CAPTREE'S FINEST & NEWEST

NEW JIB VI V

7 A.M.
8 A.M.

FLUKE

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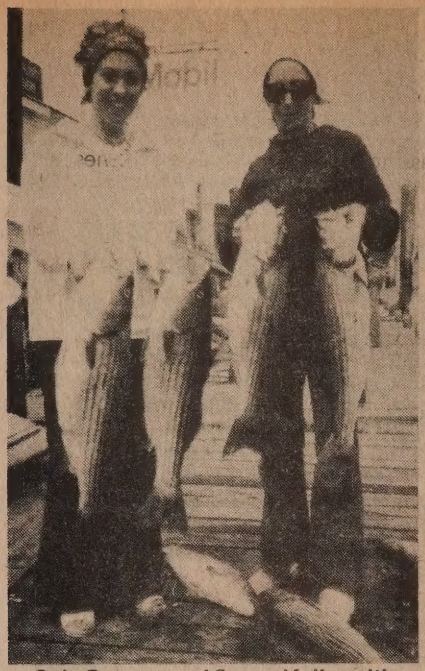

Gale Retacco and Susan Kalka with their catch of 7 bass caught on Lupo spoons in the Sandy Hookm area aboard the "Kim".

reports that Roy Maines on his own 23 footer bagged a 380 pound Gray shark at the HA buoy on Saturday, with mackerel, taking 5 hours to land the beast on 50 pound test line spooled on a Penn 6/0. Flounder and fluke are so-so locally with the best bet flounder at Swift Creek on bloodworms to a fat 1 pound.

Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle reports fluke at the Coast Guard Station on sand eels and squid. Blues are available in the inlet and offshore, though spotty. Sharking is very good south of Cholera, with big bass available if you put in the time at the Coast Guard Station on eels and bunker in the evenings. One customer weighed in a 48½ pounder taken off the barges.

Hudson Point Marina reports that on Saturday Tom Phelan of Oceanside bagged a 166½ pound Mako shark aboard the Valiante on a whole mackerel in 120 feet of water south of Cholera. Fluking is very good off Riis Park in 35 feet of water both Saturday and Sunday on both killies on squid. Average is was about 30 to 40 keepers per boat.

The **Freeport Boatmen's Association** reports a lot of good fluking this past week and that the Captain Joe hit the blues good though they are essentially still spotty. An 8½ pound weakfish came aboard the **Captain Hall** during the week.

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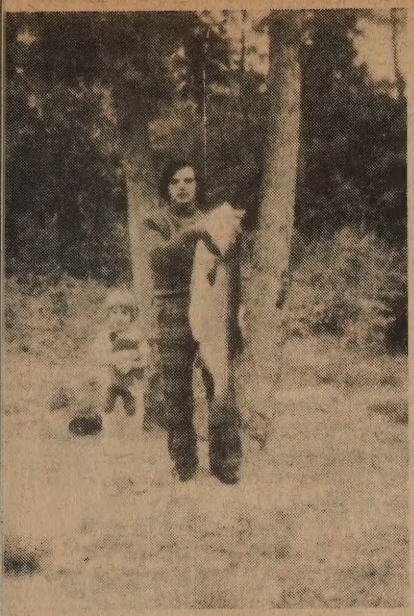


Shown here is Jim Palumbo and son Michaelwith a 40 lb. bass caught from the beach in Wading River on a sea robin fillet using 20 lb. test. Photo courtesy of Nick's Bait & Tackle.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports still plenty of good fluke fishing along most of Reynolds Channel, the flats and mouth of the inlet. More than half are keepers and there are 10 to 12 keepers per boat. Sea bass and blacks are very good at the Meadow Brook and Loop Bridges. Striped bass are so so and the few good catches are being taken on the west jetty using dead bunker. Some are also taken on eels. There are a lot of blue and dusky sharks off shore but the makos have been slow. On Wednesday Ginny Magale sailed with her boyfriend on the Sandpiper and caught a 211 lb. mako on a mackeral.

LONG BEACH

Tom at Long Beach Sports Marina reports large fluke are being caught at Duck Point ikn large quantity. About ⅓ are throwbacks and are being taken on sand eels and live killies. Bluefish are scattered throughout the area and are not that heavy as yet.

ISLAND PARK

Beckmans Tackle in 'I□ynnbrook reports excellent fluke fishing all along Reynolds Channel, Duck Point, and both Jones and Debs inlet. About 502 are throwbacks. These fish are being drifted on squid and spearing. Striped bass fishing has slowed considerably and mostly small fish are being taken off the

ATLANTIC BEACH

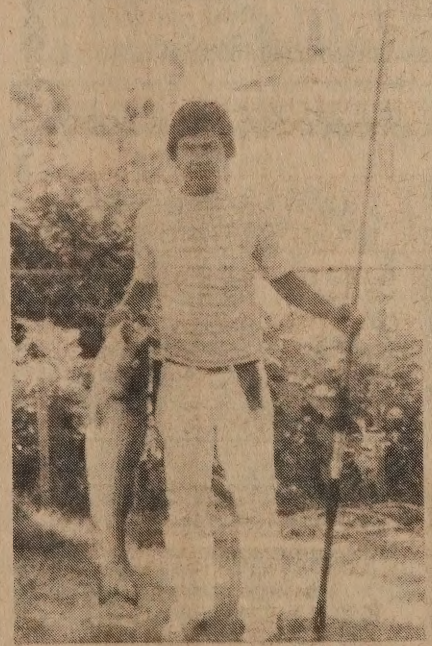
Captain Ronnie Lepper of the **Kim** and the Atlantic Beach Charter and Guide Boat Fleet reports the bass fishing was basically on the slow side this past week and weekend, with the saving grace being lots of big blues at Norton's Point. Sharking is excellent but still not as good as last year. The shark boats fishing south of the Cholera are having good catches of jumbo choppers, though even these are patchy.

Captain Don Eichin of the **Shearwater** (Atlantic Beach Charter and Guide Boat Fleet) had his first shark charter out on June 19th and racked up good scores. Manhattan anglers Tony Schillizzi, Bill Christy and Bob Krausmann got 1 blue shark and 1 dusky along with a 210 lb. Mako hung by Bill on 30 lb. Test. Tony lost 2 makos in 30 minutes, one at the boat and the other in between a series of jumps before breaking the 30 lb. test line.

JAMAICA BAY

The Yellow Shed Bait and Tackle reports on Monday morning early Tony Curto took 34 lb. striped bass on an incoming tide using fresh bunker. A few blues have been taken at the North Channel Bridge on bunker chunks. The bottom fishing has seen some small fluke taken along with sand porgies and sea bass. There are plenty of big weaks in the bay but they are not feeding but spawning.

Noehrens Bait and Tackle reports fluke porgies and sea bass at the South Channel Bridge. Fluke are being taken on killeys while the sea bass and porgies are hitting on blood worms. A few fluke have been taken at Gerritsen inlet and Plum beach. A lot of throw backs are there. Small blues of 2 to 3 lbs. were trolled on rebel at Pumpkin Patch Channel. Blue claw crabs are being caught in good quantity. A few stripped bass in size from 17 to 25 inches are taken at night using a white buck tail from the North Channel Bridge.



Ante Pinili of Bloomfield N.J. took this 16 pound striper in the surf on herring. Subscriber Club Photo.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Salvos Bait & Tackle reports fluke fishing has gotten better with more keepers being taken. Spearing and squid used along the sea wall from the Coney Island pier to 69th St. has taken plenty of fish. Porgies are in the same area taking worms and clams. Boat Fisherman using the Big Mouth buck tail jig used from the

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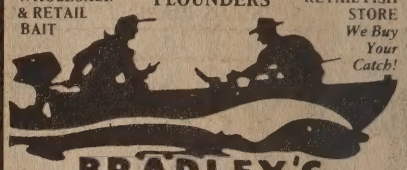

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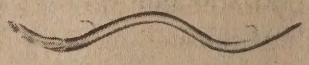

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Verranzano Bridge to Breezy Point has been picking up stripped bass. Blue fishing in the same area using the same lures as well as bunker spoons are getting plenty of fish.

The Big Mohawk II reports good fluke fishing on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. On FRiday they fished East of Playland. Nice size fish were taken and keepers were 10 to 12 a man. On Saturday fishing off Sandy Hook keepers were 15 to 20 a man and about half were keepers. Sunday they were back to Playland but the morning tide was against the wind and kept the catches down between 8 and 10.

The **Amberjack IV** reports very good fluke fishing on the Jersey side by Sea Bright and Sandy Hook. About one in four are keepers and the average fish is 1½ lbs. and better. The pool fish went 6

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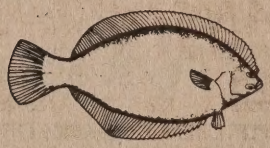

Peter Lucas caught this 17½ pound striper at the top of the flood tide at Turtle Cove on a split tail Rebel. The fish was weighed in at Jack's Bait and Tackle of City Island. Subscriber Club Photo.

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lbs. and all fish were taken on spearing, sand eels and squid.

Flaming II reports very good sea bass fishing off Sea Bright. They are averaging 30 to 50 fish per man using squid as the main bait. This was the morning fishing and in the afternoon they fished the Jersey Coast for fluke. The fish were mostly keepers and were of good size.

The **Blue Sea II** fished for fluke off Riis Park and along the edge of Ambrose Channel. They had fantastic catches using spearing and shiners. Most had 15 keepers.

The Chief reports that there is plenty of good fluke fishing by the Rockaways and Ambrose Channels. Keepers range from 1 to 8 fish and although there are a lot of shorts there is plenty of action.

Capt. Ken of the **Babe** had a good weekend fluke fishing off Riis Park. He had out Al Esposito and crew and neighbor Joel and friends. They totaled 80 keepers with twice as many throwbacks.

Capt. Charlie of the **Chianti** fished Ambrose Channel on Saturday and Sunday and had very good fluke fishing. On Sunday the New Jersey Highlands were where the bigger fish were. These were mostly keepers that were taken on fresh anchovies with squid.

STATEN ISLAND

Santos Sport Shop reports steady bass fishing at Penny Beach using worms on the outgoing tide. A few were also taken on Kastmaster or Rebel. These are mostly 3 to 4 lbs. fish with the largest going 9 lbs. Bluefishing was fairly steady from the surf at Great Kills Park and Annadale. In the evening they were on top taking plugs and during the day on cut bait. Fluke fishing is very good with every other one a throwback. The rock jetty at Great Kills Park, local sewers and Princess Bay are all good spots. The potters are taking plenty of crabs at Great Kills Harbor while the scoop netters are picking up bigger ones along the bulk head. You can pick up from one-half to a bushel full depending on the time you want to spend. Both fishermen can pick up blues in the same area as the surf fishermen using Gorilla rigs and Pet spoons. Bigger blues are at Nortons Point mostly on lures. Both fisherman have slow but steady striped bass fishing between buoys 19a and 21 can. It is best at night using a Danny Lupo or a 6,000 CREEK Chub in either white or blue.

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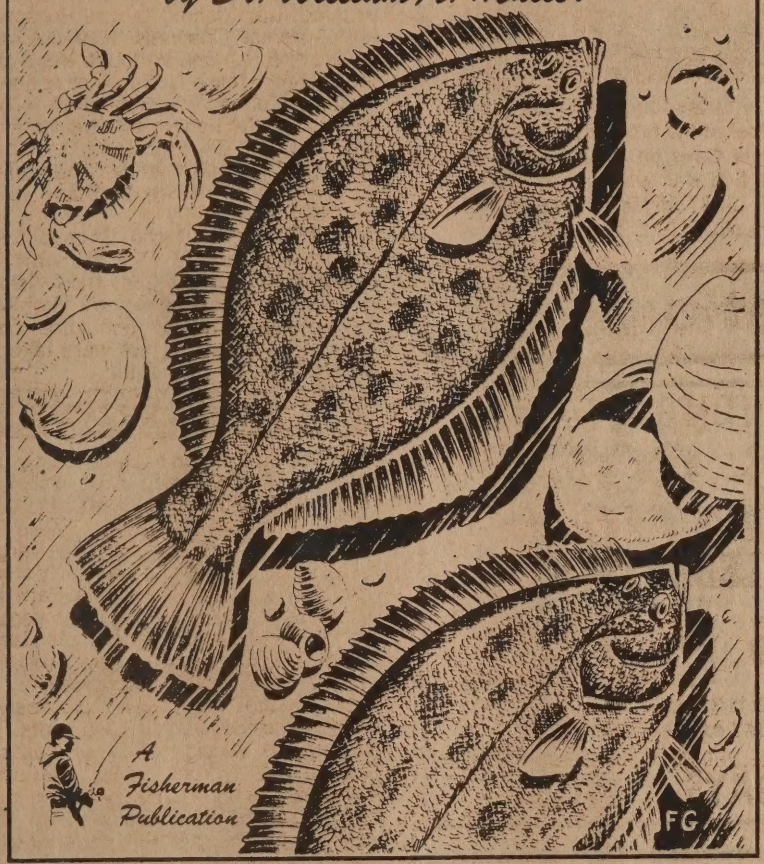

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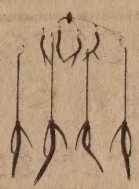

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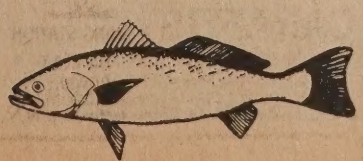

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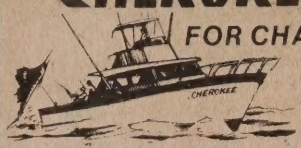

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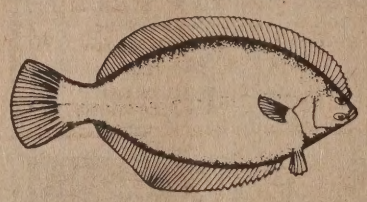

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Artie Latch reports the **Wilhelric** is really reaping the porgies by Gardiners Island. The porgies are now in solid and the catches are good with plenty of action. Some sea bass and an occassional black fish.

whites Bait Shop reports excellent fluke fishing east of Gardiners and Gardiners Bay. There is also good fluke fishing between East Marion and Shelter Island. They are hitting on Shiners, sand eels or squid on fluke rigs. These are mostly all keepers and a lot of these are 6, 8 and 10 lb. fish. There is good weak fishing in Greenport Harbor west of the jetty using squid with shrimp lures. Striped bass fishing on the Sound Shore opposite Greenport using Red Fin and Rebels. Fish of 16 to 20 lbs. have been common. Good porgy fishing with some sea bass have been taken at Gardiners Island.

SOUTHOLD

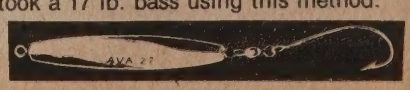
Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that porgy fishing is very improved. Buoys 15 and 17 are your best spots and the middle of Southold Bay has also had weaks along with the porgies. Fluke have been taken off the windmill and at the mouth of Coceles Harbor. These are mostly keepers that are taken on squid and shinners. These fish go to 5 lbs. and bigger. For the knowledgeable fishermen weak fish can be taken at the brickyard. Using a hook about 18 inches off the bottom and baited with a squid strip fish the first drop off of about 40 to 50 feet of water. The northside of Plum Island has had some nice sea bass and some blacks.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Martys Fishing Station reports veryt good weak and porgy fishing. On Saturday the weaks were west of Robbins Island being taken on worm and squid. On Sunday the weaks and porgies were in Roses Grove. Porgies were alson taken at buoy 25.

JAMESPORT

Warrens Tackle Center in Aquebogue reports the porgies are in ! They are at buoy 2, Rose Grove and buoy 25. The weak fish have come back and you can try using a whole sand worm in the same area as the porgies. Porgies and weaks are in the sound and are heading the same bait. The striped bass fishing from the surf in the sound is an evening proposition. Best bet is sandworm floating. On Tuesday night Neil Cyprus took a 17 lb. bass using this method.



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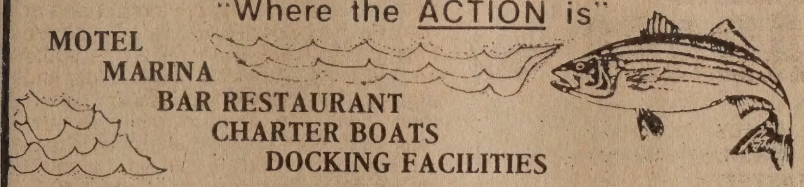

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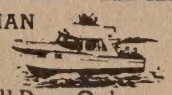

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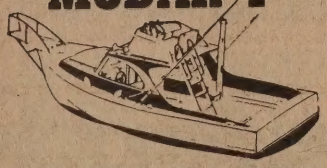

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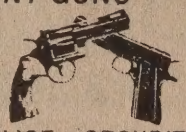

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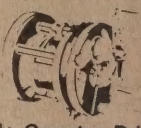

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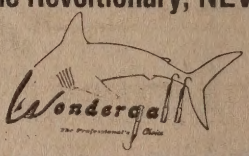

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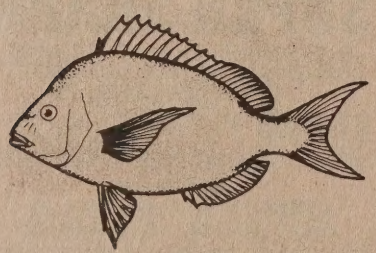

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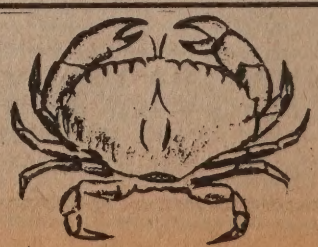


ROCKY POINT

Nicks BAIT & Tackle reports the best bet for fluke is Rocky Point and Wading River. Bill Steo of Leisure Village got a 7¼ lb. fluke drifting with sand eels. There are some throw backs but mainly keepers. From the beach there have been catches of porgies, kings and small blues. Rocky Point beach has given up a few striped bass to the worm fishermen. Eels are now starting to work on the bass.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Dicks sporting Goods reports good fluke fishing off Sound beach where Cludia Chattman took a 54 lb. fish. Many fish are being caught and most are keepers. Some small blues of 3 and 4 lbs. are starting to show. They are being taken from the surf on plugs. A lot of porgies are being taken on worms.

PORT JEFFERSON

Port Jeff Ace reports fantastic fluke fishing. These are mostly in the 3 lb. class and are being taken on sand eels. They had 700 fluke on Saturday and 600 on Sunday.

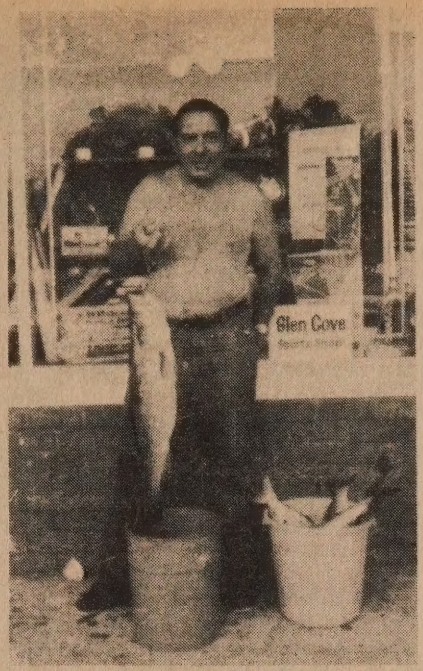
The Anglers Den reports striped bass fishing is very good along the Belle Terre shore line. They are being taken on casts Red Fin, split tail Rebel and Pulsating Pussey cat as well live eels.conscience Bay also is producing striped bass fron achored boats using live eels or sand worms. Pt. Jeff Harbor has weak fish between 5 and 10 lbs. that are feeding on small bunker and grass shrimp. They are being caught while striped bass fishing. The mouth of the harbor has plenty of nice size fluke and big fish to 10 lbs. have been taken. There are also these same fish at Mt. Misery shoal. Sand eels are the hot bait.

NORTHPORT

Bowmans Sporting Goods reports fantastic fluke fishing in the 11B area drifting with a fluke rig and squid with shiners. Some black fish of 5 to 10 lbs. have been taken at Hobarts beach. The boatmen should try 11B for the blacks. Schools of blow fish of good size have been at Hobart beach that are taken on squid or worms. About 500 yards off the hot water discharge blue fish of 3 to 5 lbs. have been taken on Kastmasters at LLoyd Point, Target Rock and Marshall Field striped bass have been taken on worms or bunker chunks at night.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnies Bait and Tackle reports striped bass catches at Cold Spring Harbor have been made on live bunker while the Huntington Inlet area has taken them on trolled bunker spoons. Fluke are best at Crab Meadow and are



Chuck Bondar and Lou G. from the Matinecock Rod & Gun Club caught 19 weakfish to 9 lbs. 8 oz. off the Glen Cove beaches on light spinning tackle. Photo courtesy of Glen Cove Sports Shop.

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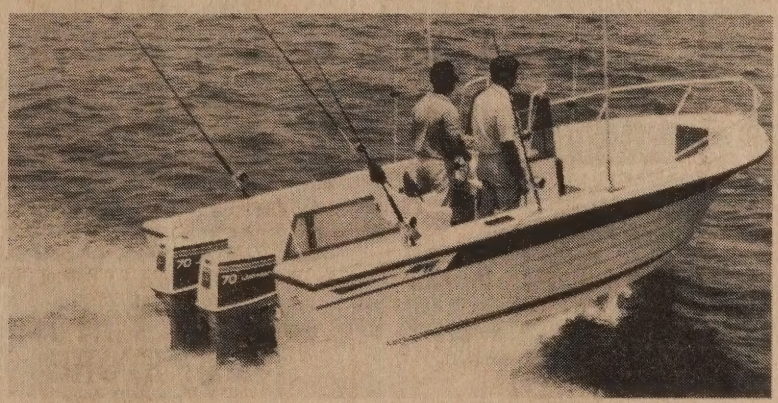

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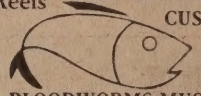
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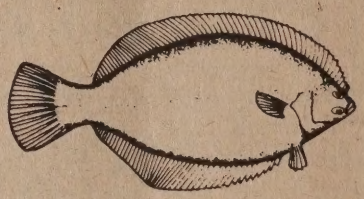

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HUDSON PARK, NEW ROCHELLE

John Palladino caught this 24 lb. bass on a bunker while fishing the Breezy Point area. Photo courtesy of Cross Bay Rod & Gun Shop.

taken drifting with a fluke rig and shinners or squid. Some good catches of weaks have been made at night on trolled worms or a cast Allee.

Capt. Pete of the **Ever Ready** reports good fluke fishing this weekend under the light at Eatons Neck. This action was good mostly in the morning as the afternoon boat traffic slows up fishing. Bait is mostly spearing and sea robbin bellies. On Thursday Pete and his wife with another couple fishing on the Jennie IV had a 7 and an 8 lb. fluke and 14 others. Last weeks misprint that said the fluke were 16 and 17 pounds should have been inches instead.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

Capt. Dike Williams of the **Therapy** took a load of snapper blues early Saturday morning at the center island reef. These 1 and 2 lb. fish were taken on small plugs. Weak fish were taken at Diamond Point on Saturday morning using buck tails. The action died as the boat traffic increased.

John Romano with his brothers Frank and Phil and their sister-in-law Amelia fished the eastside of Cold Spring Harbor for striped bass. While using a frozen whole bunker John got a sudden rap and a runoff. He set the hook and thinking he had a big bass he brought to the boat an 8 4 lb. fluke.

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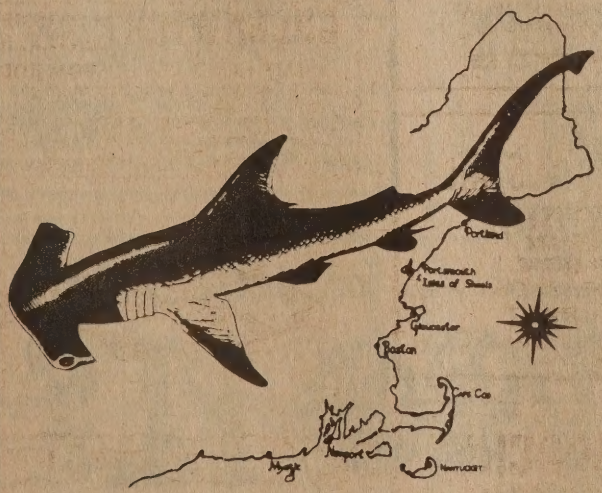

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Morelands Bait & Tackle reports excellent fluke fishing at Half Moon and Hearts. There are plenty of keepers and are being taken on squid and shiners as well as worms. Weak fish are rolling in most of the rips in the area. Try worming for them like striped bass. Most of the Rocky Points are producing striped bass of 8 and 9 lbs. for the worm fishermen.

CITY ISLAND

Johns Gun & Tackle in the Bronx reports plenty of fluke to be had anywhere from Sands Points to Port Jefferson. Sand eels are best but spearing and live killeys are also taking their quantities. Keepers are better than half but now that the fluke fishing haS TAKEN SUCH AN UP SURGE ON THE North Shore the N. Y. Conservation Dept. will soon be looking for anglers with short fluke. The sound is loaded with sand eels. All week long weak fish have been taken on the top using Side Winders, Salty Dogs and tins and Rebel plugs. Blues have been taking on top as well as on wire at Captains Island. Black fish are still being taken in the Rocky areas.

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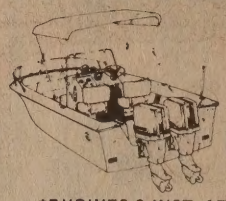

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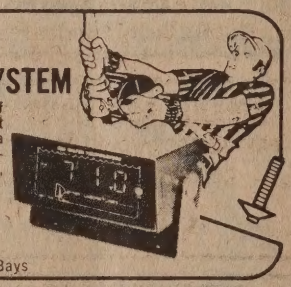

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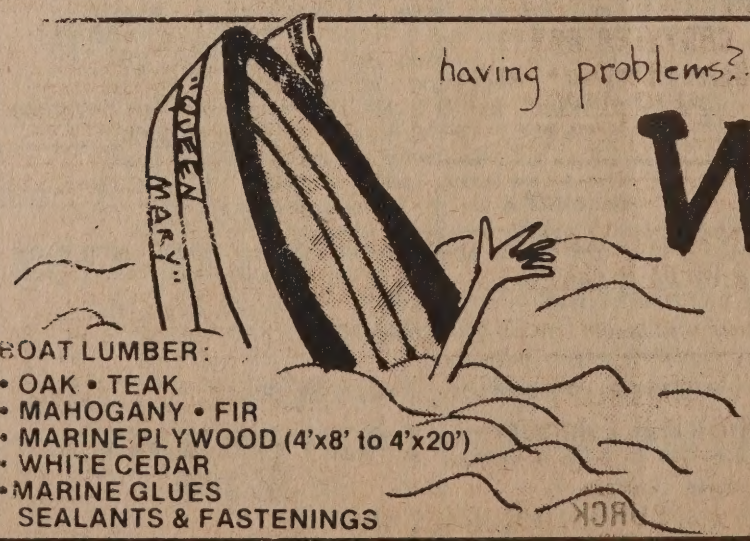

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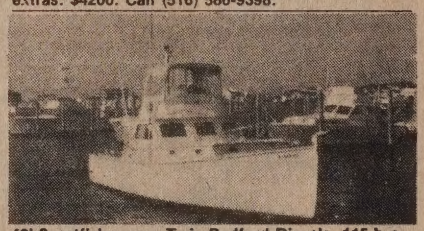

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SCIENCE OF FLUKE FISHING
Continued from page 9.

edge of the channel, particularly where there is a sharp bend or sudden narrowing.

The edges of a channel may be easily located with either a depth recorder or visually by looking for the change in the waters color at the depth change or simply by watching the navigational aids such as red and black buoys that mark the edges of a channel.

INLETS: The inlets along the south shore of Long Island and even the harbor entrances to many of the north shore harbors are excellent areas for fluke for several reasons. As with the sudden narrowing of a channel, inlets also have a funneling effect on the water that moves through them. It's the same effect as when you put a finger over the nozzle of a garden hose...when the same volume of water must pass through a narrower opening, it must increase its speed—which results in the swiftly moving currents that usually accompany an inlet. Also, anything that enters or leaves the shallow waters of the bay for the ocean must pass through the mouth of the inlet, so the fluke set up shop there to act as a roadblock for baitfish on the move. As a rule, fluke fishing will be best in an inlet during outgoing tide, when the water tends to have a flushing movement that carries helpless baitfish with it. The inlets are also very hot areas in late August and September when the fluke bunch up and feed in preparation for their annual off shore migration.

Naturally, the use of a depth recorder will be a tremendous aid in locating most of the bottom formations that fluke prefer. A graph type paper recorder is preferred, but they are more than a few bucks and out of reach for many skiff fishermen. But a simple flasher will more than do the trick, so don't despair. The price of any recorder will quickly be recovered in fluke fillets if you learn how to use it properly.

All of the bottom formations that we have discussed have one or two common denominators: a change in depth, or change in current direction or speed. If there was a golden rule of fluke fishing, it would be this: FISH THE CHANGES. But where do you begin the search? Don't just cruise around blindly burning up a lot of gas. Purchase a nautical chart of the area you do your fishing in and look for the areas like the ones in the diagrams. Super-accurate they are not, but at least they will give you an idea on where to start your search. A new publication on the market may also help the fluke fisherman... "The Mariners Guide to Long Island" monthly guide for boaters that published sections of a nautical chart with an aerial photograph of the same area right alongside it for comparative purposes. The photos are excellent and it is possible to see many sand bars, depth changes, etc., that don't appear on the official chart of the area.

Next week, we'll go into the art of drifting for fluke...there's a lot more to it than most anglers think!

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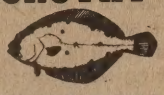

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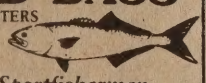

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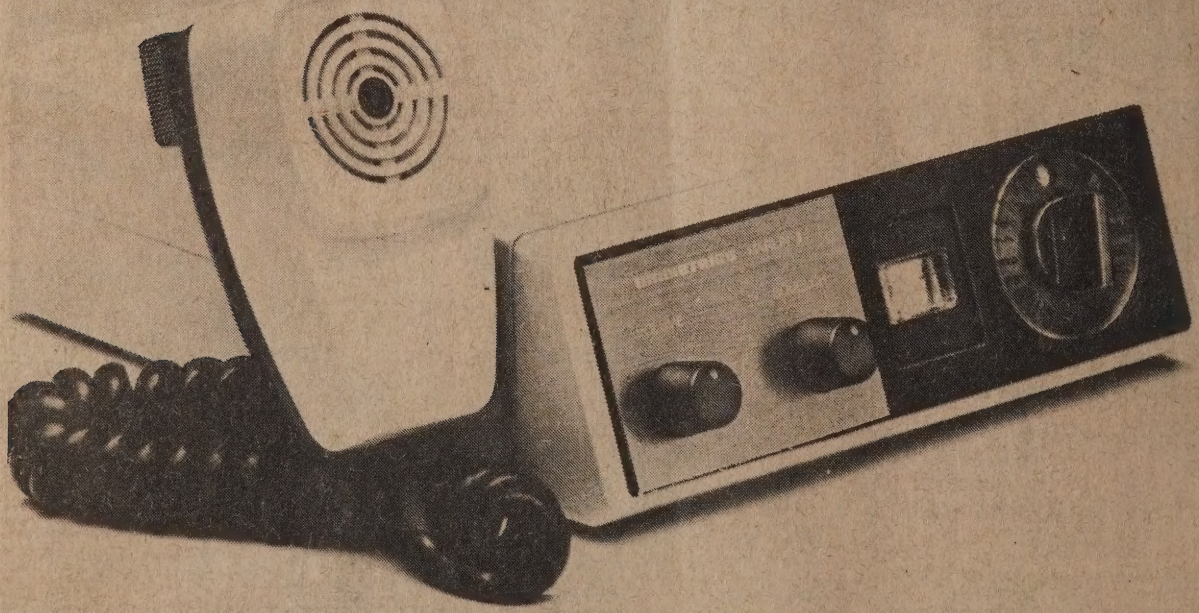

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